



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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6 January 1993

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Butrus-Ghali Gives 'Sharp Warning' to Somali Factions

AB0501222593 Paris AFP in English 2145 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa, Jan 5 (AFP)—U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali delivered a sharp warning to quarreling Somali warlords at peace talks here Tuesday, saying the world could forget them in 24 hours. [passage omitted]

"The international community could forget Somalia in 24 hours," Butrus-Ghali told a press conference after the talks bogged down, warning the warlords gathered here not to harbour "the illusion that Somalia has still a strategic importance."

Butrus-Ghali is due to leave Addis Ababa Wednesday for a visit to Asmera, capital of the breakaway Ethiopian province of Eritrea, where a U.N.-backed referendum on independence is to be held, but he said the talks would continue in his absence.

He said he had designated three major warlords—General Mohamed Farah Aidid, interim President Ali Mahdi Mohamed and General Omar Hadji—to lead the conference in his absence.

Butrus-Ghali refused to respond directly to charges by Aidid, who controls much of Mogadishu and the south of Somalia, that the United Nations had hired the United States to establish a U.N. protectorate in Somalia.

"The United States and the United Nations work together," Butrus-Ghali said, "and the United States is an important member of the Security Council. We have to discuss with the good guys and the bad guys....We cooperate with everybody."

He estimated that the switch to a U.N. force in Somalia would take one to three months, adding that he hoped African nations would be well represented in the U.N. force, which French military sources say would comprise 12,000 to 15,000 troops. [passage omitted]

UN Says 20 African Countries Need Food Aid

MB0601060193 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1610 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Text] The UN Food and Agricultural Organization, FAO, says 20 African countries will need food aid throughout the year, despite recent improved distribution in Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Liberia. An FAO

report released today in Nairobi says the international community will have to spread the aid net wider, if the countries most seriously affected by civil war and drought are to make it through 1993 without widespread loss of life.

It says agricultural production this season was not expected to recover in many African countries, because of the effects of prolonged drought and civil strife. It said some countries will need close attention to ensure a return to normal productivity and healthy lives for their people.

The report said much of southern Africa is still reeling from the effects of last year's drought, and the situation will depend on developments in the 1992-93 harvest season. It said despite good harvests in parts of eastern Africa, huge numbers of people affected by the drought and civil strife are still at risk.

It said countries that would need aid are Angola, Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Report Notes Lack of Growth in Manufacturing

MB0201175993 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1600 GMT 2 Jan 93

[Text] The 1991-92 Southern African Development Community, or SADC, report on industry and trade says the manufacturing sector in most member countries remains small and averages only 12 percent of the regional gross domestic product.

The report said although access to foreign exchange was relatively no longer a major problem, as a result of the introduction of trade liberalization in most SADC countries, many manufacturing enterprises were unable to utilize foreign exchange at their disposal, largely because of liquidity related problems.

The report further observed that a shortage of industrial skills continued to frustrate efforts aimed at improving industrial production.

On the positive side, it said inter-SADC trade had increased from around 4 percent in 1980 to 5.1 percent in 1988.

Gabon

Radio Cites President's Year-End Message

AB0401183093 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1230 GMT 1 Jan 93

[Text] As tradition demands, President Omar Bongo, like many heads of state, has delivered his end-of-year message to his countrymen. He took stock of the year that has just ended.

[Begin Bongo recording] The year 1992, like the previous one, was a year of major change for our country. These changes led to extensive reforms in all sectors which, today, portray the new national outlook. More than in the past, they enable everybody to better define their environment, better assert their personality, and, in spite of our differences, preserve the notion of national unity and strengthen the concept of a Gabonese nation. All these changes and the problems encountered in the past few years create genuine concerns among us all, especially among the youth, who are very anxious about their future. They undoubtedly create centrifugal forces, which should not, however, make us lose sight of the fact that we have to continue, in an understanding and calm spirit, the construction of a peaceful Gabon. It is in the interest of us all to remain united in order to face our problems and overcome the dangers together so that we can look forward to a brighter future for ourselves. Gabon's interest and future are a challenge to each and every one of us. I sincerely hope that our politicians will do their best to put an end to the insults and squabbles and that we will only be filled with a sense of responsibility. [end recording]

Rwanda

Civil War Refugees Said in Danger of Starvation

AB0101111593 Paris AFP in English 0257 GMT 31 Dec 92

[Text] Kampala, Dec 31 (AFP)—Some 350,000 refugees from the civil war in Rwanda are close to starvation in the north of the country but efforts to get supplies to them have been halted because government and rebels cannot agree on the routes, aid officials in neighbouring Uganda said.

"There is not a single grain of food for the displaced people and if food does not reach them in the next ten days, mass starvation shall occur," the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) delegation in Uganda said Wednesday [30 December].

The Rwandan government and the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) rebels are locked in a wrangle over entry points for trucks ferrying relief food supplies across the border from Uganda.

The rebels, who invaded Rwanda from Uganda two years ago, control a large area in the north of the country.

Last week, a consignment of 360 tonnes of beans entered Rwanda in Ruhengeri district, a Rwandan government stronghold, but the RPF protested that shorter and cheaper routes under its control were being bypassed.

"Since there was disagreement, we had to suspend the relief operations in line with our neutrality," the ICRC's representative here said.

The conflict over supply entry points intensified when the rebels learned that the relief food in question, amounting to 2,000 tonnes, had been purchased by the Rwandan embassy in Uganda on behalf of the displaced people.

The ICRC said it needed 7,000 tonnes every month to avert starvation in the land locked war-torn nation of six million people.

At least 10,000 tonnes of maize and beans for Rwanda will be bought from Uganda with the balance to be imported by the Rome-based World Food Programme.

Zaire

Shaba Province Experiences 'Wave' of Ethnic Trouble

AB0301190093 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 1 Jan 93

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Ever since Etienne Tshisekedi became Zaire's prime minister, replacing Nguz A Karl-I-Bond who comes from Shaba Province, there has been a wave of ethnic trouble in Shaba. It is apparently being targeted against Kasai people. Their villages and homes have been attacked, ransacked, and destroyed. Many have fled to the main towns, especially Lukasi, only to find themselves being put on trains to be transported to Kasai. Journalist Chris McGrill has just been to Shaba. On the line, Chris Green asked him if the troubles were continuing:

[Begin recording] [McGrill] Yes, they seem to have worsened basically at the behest of the provincial government. The governor has gone on radio several times to say that Kasai people must be expelled. He has called on other people in Katanga to force them out. And after he has done that, there have generally been attacks. The governor has gone on the radio to say that if the Kasai are driven out, we will be able to have their jobs and their nice homes. And it is continuing and lots of people fear, including the aid agencies that are assisting these people, that it will, in fact, get worse over the coming weeks. The signs are that they intend to continue with this kind of ethnic cleansing. The governor has announced that Shaba will no longer be known as Shaba but will be known as Katanga, which is what it was called until the Belgian Congo became Zaire. So, what he is trying to do is to take it back to almost a precolonial period. I mean he is accusing the Kasai of being products of the colonial

period because they were brought down to Katanga by the Belgians to work the mines.

[Green] But as they say, the Kasai people have been in Shaba or Katanga, whichever it is now going to be called, for some generations. What has prompted this action by the governor of Shaba now?

[McGrill] It seems to be part of the overall political maneuvering taking place in Zaire at the moment. The governor is a supporter of Nguz A Karl-I-Bond, who is a supporter of President Mobutu. Nguz A Karl-I-Bond was recently replaced as prime minister by Etienne Tshisekedi, who is a very strong opponent of Mr. Mobutu. Now, Mr. Tshisekedi is a member of the Kasai as well, whereas Nguz A Karl-I-Bond and the governor of Shaba both come from Shaba or Katanga, whatever you want to call it these days. And it seems to be part of Mr. Mobutu's divide and rule tactics. He is trying to turn people against the Kasai and hence against Mr. Tshisekedi, but also Mr. Mobutu has of long presented himself as somebody who is able to hold the nation together and it seems—and it is a very dangerous game for him—but it seems in part that what they are trying to do here is to divide and rule and allow Mr. Mobutu to come and say that he is saving the nation when Mr. Tshisekedi, because he is a Kasai, is dividing it.

[Green] From talking with the Kasai during your visit, are they just neatly packing up and going or is there any attempt to fight back?

[McGrill] There has been some fighting back. There are reports of attacks on other people in Katanga and a number of deaths. But as a rule, most people do seem to be packing up and leaving. Whether or not they feel physically threatened, they just feel there is no future in Shaba for them anymore.

[Green] In Zaire as a whole, the economy is in a complete mess. Is this wave of expulsions making the economy even worse in Shaba-Katanga?

[McGrill] Yes, it is. It is having a profound effect because of the positions that the Kasai have held. One of the things that the governor has said in his attacks on them is that they have taken the good jobs inside GECAMINES, the big mining company, then he has called for them to be ousted. GECAMINES is resisting that, although it has fired some people, because it says that these people are well trained. That without the Kasai the mining company will decline even further and it is some trouble. We can also already see the effects. Many shops are now closed. They were owned by the Kasai. The best market in Lukasi, for instance, the third market, was run by Kasai people. That market has now, for all intents and purposes, transferred itself to the railway station and the Kasai there are only selling to their own people. Other people from Katanga are not welcome at the railway station anymore, as you might imagine. [end recording]

Djibouti**'High Death Toll' in New Government 'Offensive'***AB0601063393 London BBC World Service in English
1830 GMT 5 Jan 93*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Djibouti's opposition is claiming that the government has launched a new offensive in the north of the country and that there has been a high death toll. There has been a lull in the fighting between the Afar FRUD [Front for the Restoration of Unity and Democracy] rebels and government forces during a wrangle over the exchange of prisoners. But with the rebels counterattacking, a resumption of the war is on the cards. Heba Sale has been investigating. Here is her report:

[Sale] Most of the news about the renewed clashes comes out of Paris, where the Djibouti Association for Human Rights has issued a statement saying that fighting has broken out between government troops and Afar rebels in the northern town of Tadjoura. The statement says that government forces have over the past week launched an all-out offensive against the FRUD rebels. The association also says that it fears that several hundred people could have been killed or wounded in the clashes.

Tadjoura is in an area blockaded by government troops, and not much information is coming out. However, sources I spoke to in Djibouti town confirmed that there has been fighting in the Tadjoura area for the past week and that last night saw renewed clashes in the town itself. One source said that last week the government mounted an offensive to capture a water bottling plant on a strategic road 90 km out of Tadjoura. There was no fighting because the rebels withdrew from the plant, but later they ambushed the government troops.

On 31 December, a French Army detachment in northern Djibouti withdrew from the region at the request of the government.

Kenya**Opposition Warns Government To End Ethnic Clashes***AB0501213493 Paris AFP in English 1920 GMT 5 Jan 93*

[Text] Nairobi, Jan 5 (AFP) - Leaders of Kenya's main opposition parties Tuesday [5 January] accused the Kenyan government of restarting ethnic clashes in several parts of the country and gave the government until Sunday to end them.

Addressing a joint press conference here, Oginga Odinga of the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy (FORD)-Kenya, Kenneth Matiba of FORD-Asili and Mwai Kibaki of the Democratic Party of Kenya (DP) charged that the government was responsible for the violence, directed mainly against supporters of the opposition.

The three warned that unless the ethnic clashes were ended by January 10, the opposition would embark on "a cause of action which we consider effective to return sensibility to the management of public affairs."

They charged that the government had instigated the clashes as a punishment to those who did not vote for President Daniel arap Moi's ruling Kenya African National Union (KANU) party in parliamentary and presidential elections on December 30—the first multi-party elections in 26 years.

At a separate press conference on Tuesday, Kenya's Roman Catholic bishops charged that armed warriors of Moi's Kalenjin tribe were killing people with arrows and burning their houses in various parts of the country.

In a statement read to the press by the chairman of the Kenya Episcopal Conference, Archbishop Zaccheus Okoth, the bishops appealed to the government to immediately get rid of the arrow-slinging warriors, youth-wingers and other terror groups irrespective of their party affiliations.

The opposition leaders said that a steady stream of refugees whose houses had been torched by the warriors were reporting to various churches, mosques, police posts and other centres.

They also claimed that members of the populous Kikuyu, Luo and Luhya ethnic groups had received threats of eviction from areas dominated by KANU supporters.

Moi, 69, was hurriedly sworn-in on Monday for a new five-year term, angering the opposition, who have rejected the election results as fraudulent.

"We hold Daniel arap Moi personally responsible for these criminal acts of terrorism against innocent civilians", Odinga told the press conference.

Commonwealth Chief Says Political Leaders To Meet*EA0501213893 Nairobi KNA in English 1430 GMT
5 Jan 92*

[Text] Nairobi, 5 Jan (KNA)—President Moi and the three leaders of the main opposition parties have agreed to meet and talk in recognition of the fact that the government and the opposition parties have their respective duties and obligations to the state and the people of Kenya.

Addressing a press conference today in a Nairobi hotel, the Commonwealth secretary-general, Chief Emeka Anyaoku, said that after meeting President Moi and Oginga Odinga of FORD [Forum for the Restoration of Democracy]-Kenya, Kenneth Matiba of FORD-Asili

and Mwai Kibaki of Democratic Party, both parties agreed to adopt dialogue to replace confrontation in approaching multi-party democracy.

Chief Anyaoku noted that, despite the serious imperfections during the 29th December elections, the Commonwealth observers considered that the results broadly reflected the will of the Kenyan people. Saying that at least in every country in the world there is some degree of imperfection during elections, Chief Anyaoku urged those with existing grievances to follow constitutional procedures in addressing them.

He said that the just-ended general elections constituted a historic step on the road to democracy, adding that the challenge now facing Kenya is how to advance on that road in the interest of the nation's peace, prosperity, and unity.

Chief Anyaoku noted that multi-party democracy is the watchful eyes of the opposition parties on the conduct of the government as well as institutions such as the press, the civil service and the Electoral Commission appropriate to multi-party democracy, will among other things make it easier to avoid the recurrence of the most serious imperfections experienced in the recent elections. [sentence as received]

Somalia

* Increasing Influence of Islamic Radicals Viewed

93AF0281A Paris L'EXPRESS in French
1 Jan 93 pp 28-30

[Article by Jean-Marc Gonin: "The Islamists Are Waiting for the Right Time"; first paragraph is L'EXPRESS introduction]

[Text] Humanitarian aid is strengthening the Islamic fundamentalists. Betting on the sufferings of the Somali people and the presence of foreign troops, the extremists are playing their own game.

Her frightened look moved the world. Millions of television viewers watched mob violence directed against Leyla Hassan Sadik, who was being chased by an angry crowd in Mogadishu, which accused her of having had sexual relations with foreign soldiers. The suspicion had no foundation. The young Somali woman got out of this scrape without too much harm: a knife slash on the palm of her hand and another one on her shoulder. In the eyes of many people, it was just another incident. An outburst of "mob violence" of the kind that has occurred from Khartoum to Bangui and from Dakar to Dar es Salaam. This is particularly likely in a Somalia that has no laws, no police, no courts of justice, and where rumors have the force of evidence.

However, the violence unleashed against Leyla was a kind of signal. One may fear that it is only the first serious incident caused by the simultaneous presence of thousands of Western soldiers and a Muslim population. The "gal," or white man, inspires distrust, scorn, and, at

times, disgust. Already the Muslim Brotherhood is circulating leaflets that are calm in tone and contain no hatred. What do they say? Simply, that the presence of Western troops on Somali territory is an attack on "Koranic morality." This is a moment to be remembered. Such warnings are enough to sow doubt and give credit to the worst slanders. Leyla, who had only accepted a bar of chocolate given to her by the Marines, was the first victim. Shortly after the attack on her she came to question even the sincerity of the feelings of those who criticized her. She said, "In fact, the men are jealous because we women necessarily have easier contact with the soldiers. It is envy that led them to attack me."

Starlin Arush, cofounder of a movement for the defense of Somali women, fears this hypocrisy more than anything else. This young woman, who was engaged in vocational training in Turin just two years ago, is totally involved in social and humanitarian aid for her fellow Somalis. In her view the fundamentalists are now looking for ways to gain power. The civil war, which plunged the country into divisions, anarchy, misery, and famine, served to strengthen their propaganda by presenting religion as a force for bringing people together and restoring public order. In opposing the struggles between clans, they say, "Our clan is Islam." Starlin Arush predicts that the massive intervention of foreign forces will increase their influence. Using the pretext that this is a return to colonialism and playing on nationalist feelings, they lie in wait.

In Medina, the old residential area of Mogadishu where until now the worst disorders and mob rule have been the order of the day, Muslim law is now being applied. According to a doctor in a hospital, Koranic law began to be applied about six weeks ago. A council of sheikhs, a kind of court in Medina, reportedly hands down sentences without any right of appeal. Thieves have a hand cut off. The death penalty is given to murderers. Hassan, a young geologist, said: "This is a good thing. The population, the honest people, support the application of Muslim law. They are tired of being robbed and attacked without any authority to turn to. I hope that this practice will spread to the whole city."

In Mogadishu the status of women is deteriorating. Starlin Arush said: "Previously, under Siyad Barre, women were well-integrated into society. They worked, they dressed in Western style, and they received, by law, the same salary as men for doing the same thing." As a consequence of the civil war they now stay home. Their husbands, serving in the various militia forces or killed in combat, have left them to carry all of the burdens of their families. And intolerance against them has rather quickly appeared: now they wear traditional clothing, cover their hair, and have totally disappeared from public view. Starlin Arush said: "Islam, however much it gives broad freedom to women, has been turned into an instrument for alienating us."

Somalia never practiced its religion with any great devotion. Although they are followers of the Sunni tradition of Islam, many Somalis continue to observe "pagan" ceremonies from their nomad past, which have nothing in common with the message of the prophet. The fundamentalist movements have had difficulty in establishing themselves, all the more so since they are in conflict with clan institutions. This is a source of friction incompatible with their efforts to spread their views. However, as in other Muslim countries and thanks to the support of foreign countries (such as Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Sudan), the message of the Islamists is beginning to be heard.

A Well-Defined Strategy

Marka, a port on the Indian Ocean 150 km south of Mogadishu, appears to be one of the strong points of al-Ittihad, the most radical of the fundamentalist groups in the country. Its "bearded" supporters control the port and the hospital. They have opened an elementary school and a military training camp. A year of work and a well-defined strategy were enough to enable them to reach their objective. According to an eyewitness, a volunteer worker for a humanitarian organization, it all began early in December 1991 with the arrival of a bus. Fighting had devastated the capital, and a number of refugees chose to flee to this old port where Portuguese vessels once moored. About 100 persons were crowded in on the benches of the bus. From the time they arrived they expressed their faith. Devoutly attending the mosques, they gave violent sermons against the infidels.

Very few people understood then that these were Islamic fundamentalists. The majority of the people were attracted by their message of peace. People thought of them as saviors. They announced that they wanted to disarm the people and arrest the looters. They were well dressed and always behaved very well. They know how to make themselves appreciated. Their appearance is in contrast with that of people who arrive from Mogadishu, dressed in rags. They are full of zeal and, together with local personalities, were given responsibility for the management of port activity.

They were immediately successful. Thanks to port charges assessed on shipments—300 million Somali shillings, or about 45,000 French francs per ship—they rapidly grew rich. Although, at first, they did not have

more than a few rifles, three months later they had three "technical cars" (four-wheel-drive vehicles with a heavy machine gun mounted on top). Before the American landing they had seven "technical." Revenues from port duties and protection money collected from the local office of the International Red Cross (International Committee of the Red Cross) made it possible for al-Ittihad to acquire this respectable arsenal. It is said that this flotilla of "technical" faded away toward Ethiopia shortly before Operation "Restore Hope" was launched. About 300 members of the organization live in Marka and are being trained for combat. This is really a small army. Other camps are reportedly spread out elsewhere in the country, including Mogadishu.

The deployment of men from al-Ittihad along the coast has been reported in several places: in Boosaaso, in the northeastern part of Somalia, in Baraawe, where they also collect taxes from unloading ships, and in Kismaayo, the large port in the south, where their influence is still limited. Their activity as "tax collectors" has also led them to set themselves up in several customs posts along the Ethiopian border.

It appears that al-Ittihad has solid support in Sudan and in Iran. Last week the Iranian radio service began a program in Somali in which it used the tested techniques of propaganda on the air. In these broadcasts Western soldiers are accused of all kinds of misconduct, and humanitarian organizations are said to harbor the darkest of intentions. On its hit parade of slander are allegations of the forced Christianization of Muslim orphans. This is a rumor that is already circulating throughout the country.

Although it is already present on the scene, the Somali fundamentalist movement is not (yet) in a position to impose its will on the country. The clan chiefs remain in control. These "lords" profit both from the loyalty of their soldiers and divisions among the fundamentalists. For example, the Muslim Brotherhood criticizes the paramilitary activity of al-Ittihad. Abdol Kadir Mohamed Kutub, one of the leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood, said: "Taking power by force of arms is not a solution." These reasonable views are shared for the moment by an immense majority of the people, provided the Marines and the Foreign Legion do not stay in Somalia too long.

APLA Inquiry Adjourns for Response to SAP Testimony

*MB0501133593 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1131
GMT 5 Jan 93*

[Text] Port Elizabeth Jan 5 SAPA—The Goldstone Commission's committee investigating the activities of the Azanian People's Liberation Army [APLA] has adjourned to give parties an opportunity to respond to testimony by the South African Police [SAP] and South African Defence Forces, SABC radio news reported on Tuesday [5 January].

Legal representatives of the police and the Defence Force said in testimony in Port Elizabeth on Monday that APLA had planned and carried out its attacks from Transkei and that the Pan Africanist Congress had to accept responsibility for its military wing's actions.

The chairman of the committee, Gert Steyn, said on Tuesday the Transkeian consul-general, August Mapasa, had asked that the testimony be made available to him so that the Transkei government could study it and then decide whether to respond officially.

The committee will sit again on Monday.

Transkei 'Will Not Testify'

*MB0501180793 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1343
GMT 5 Jan 93*

[Text] Umtata Jan 5 SAPA—Transkei will not testify before the Goldstone Commission in connection with violence in South Africa, Transkei military ruler Maj-Gen Bantu Holomisa said on Tuesday [5 January]. Reacting to a decision by Goldstone Commission Committee Chairman Gert Steyn in Port Elizabeth earlier on Tuesday to adjourn the committee hearing until Monday to give all parties an opportunity to respond to South African Police [SAP] and South African Defence Force [SADF] testimony on Azanian Peoples Liberation Army [APLA] activities, Gen Holomisa said he stuck to his decision to have his own judicial commission of inquiry into APLA activities in Transkei.

Mr Justice Goldstone had been invited by the Transkei government to head this independent Transkei commission of inquiry. Gen Holomisa said if the investigations of Mr Justice Goldstone into APLA activities in South Africa indicated that Transkei was being used as a training ground and launching pad for attacks on South Africa, "the Goldstone Commission and South African Government officials were welcome to lead and present evidence to our proposed commission of inquiry".

The Transkei would provide transport "in loco inspection" of the alleged training centres to Mr Justice Goldstone and South African officials in the company of the Transkei team, Gen Holomisa said.

Referring to Monday's South African Police statement from Cape Town naming three APLA cadres for whom warrants of arrest had been issued, the Transkei leader advised South

Africa to apply for extradition orders through diplomatic channels if the three were in Transkei.

South African Police Chief Gen Johan van der Merwe said Letlapa Mphahlele, Luyanda Humphry Goomfa and Welile Gideon Maflika were being sought in connection with several recent attacks on Eastern Cape towns. A fourth APLA member, purportedly a former chief of operations in Transkei, Vumankosi Laurence Ntinkinca, was also sought by the SAP.

Meanwhile the Goldstone Commission committee enquiring into APLA activities, before going into recess on Tuesday, could find no evidence of claims that the government had flown in APLA dissidents from abroad to testify before the committee. Committee Chairman Gert Steyn said: "I would also be very keen to know where the information came from, because the committee could find no evidence of this."

Mr Steyn said other claims that the committee intended to subpoena Pan Africanist Congress [PAC] leaders to testify were premature. "The PAC has already requested copies of the submissions made on Monday by the (SA) Police and Defence Force and have told us they will inform us of their plan by Friday," he said.

A Johannesburg newspaper on Tuesday quoted PAC Publicity Director Waters Tobot! as saying the organisation remained adamant its information was correct and that it would maintain its stance of refusing to co-operate with the commission, even if subpoenaed.

The police suggested the Goldstone Commission committee subpoena "all persons" within the area of its jurisdiction who could be in possession of information, to testify.

Before the hearing was adjourned on Tuesday morning the committee heard calls for

- An investigation into the alleged training of APLA members in Transkei and South Africa, including "crash" courses in the use of sophisticated weapons;
- The committee to establish and verify the location of APLA camps and/or training centres;
- An investigation into the supply of arms and ammunition to APLA, both inside and outside the country;
- A general investigation into APLA's personnel, including training, numbers, location and command structures;
- An investigation into APLA's funding and the true relationship between the armed wing and the PAC;
- A request to Transkeian authorities to cease support of APLA forthwith; and
- A call to the Organisation for African Unity to request its members to stop supporting APLA.

In his submission to the Goldstone Committee, SADF Counsel Danie Pretorius said the PAC received R[and]42,000,000 from Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi in 1991, indicating that Libya contemplated becoming the PAC's primary contributor.

He referred to APLA's "mobile warfare", saying the military wing's full-scale war was to be waged against the armed services and farmers through attacks on white residential areas. Indications were that this warfare should be waged in Qwaqwa, the Vaal Triangle, Bloemfontein, Transkei and against farmers in the Orange Free State.

Mr Pretorius submitted that APLA regarded negotiations with the government as another form of struggle.

Holomisa Suggests Pretoria Meeting After Inquiry

MB0201103093 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0900 GMT 2 Jan 93

[Text] Transkei's military ruler says a meeting between the homeland government and Pretoria should not be held before Transkei inquiries into the PAC's [Pan-Africanist Congress] armed wing are completed. Major General Bantu Holomisa was responding to media reports that South Africa's foreign affairs minister, Pik Botha, was arranging a meeting between the governments on the issue of alleged APLA [Azanian People's Liberation Army] training bases in Transkei.

Holomisa says he has not been approached by Pretoria on such a meeting. He says he has no objection to the meeting in principle, but that it should take place after the commission has published its findings on APLA. Holomisa says such a meeting could have an undue influence on the homeland inquiry.

Meanwhile, he says the matter of South African attempts to destabilize the Transkei will also be raised at the meeting with Commission Chairman Judge Richard Goldstone. The Transkei inquiry will be run independently of the South African Goldstone Commission which is [word indistinct] under the National Peace Accord to which Transkei is not a signatory.

APLA Warns Government About Violence Probe

MB0501193293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1711 GMT 5 Jan 93

[By Nhlanhla Mbatha]

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 5 SAPA—The Azanian People's Liberation Army [APLA] on Tuesday [5 January] warned the South African Government to stop "dragging innocent" people into its probe into "revolutionary violence". Speaking by telephone from Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, the chairman of APLA's high command, Victor Sabelo Phama, said there were "discrepancies and inaccuracies" in information about the four men whose photographs appeared on national newspapers on Tuesday.

The South African Police on Monday issued photographs of four APLA cadres to newspapers countrywide, saying warrants for their arrest had been issued. The four are Letlapa Mphahlele, alias Happy; Luyanda Humphry Gqomfa, alias Thami; Welile Gideon Maflika, alias Vuyo; and Vumankosi Laurence Ntकिनca, alias Sizwe.

Mr Phama denied claims that Mr Ntकिनca was APLA's chief of operations and that Mr Ntकिनca underwent military training abroad. He said Mr Ntकिनca was "merely a patriotic Azanian who supported the aims and ideals of the Pan Africanist Congress [PAC]". He said the other three were "well-known members" of PAC subordinate organisations, either the Pan Africanist Students Organisation or the Azanian National Youth Unity, in the border region.

"That is why they (the police) have their photographs. The regime would be lucky to have photographs of (real) APLA cadres," he said.

About the supply of arms to cadres of liberation movements by Transkei, Mr Phama said: "Pistols were supplied to people involved in the security of the PAC leadership during its national congress in Umtata in April last year. Leaders are protected all over the world, even (President) F W de Klerk himself; it's a known thing," he said.

Mr Phama joined the PAC in condemning a claimed move to bring into the country PAC and APLA dissidents to testify in the Goldstone Commission. The PAC on Monday claimed that two of its dissidents based overseas, one being Mr Justice Nkonyana, were in the country after being flown in by the government to testify.

Mr Phama described Mr Nkonyana as a "renegade of no consequence" who joined a rebel group led by the late Potlako Leballo. He said Mr Nkonyana masterminded and sanctioned the execution of PAC's David Sibeko in Tanzania in 1979.

Mr Phama said the Goldstone Commission committee on APLA activities was not a credible body, and for it to sit and waste its time listening to Mr Nkonyana, who also had no credibility, would confirm the commission's untrustworthiness.

'Obstacles' Prevent Inkatha-AZAPO Meeting

MB0501191093 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Text] A planned peace meeting between Inkatha and AZAPO [Azanian People's Organization] leaders in Bekkersdal has failed to take place. The meeting was scheduled for this morning to end fighting between the two parties in the West Rand township. Reports say certain obstacles prevented the meeting from getting off. Two people were killed and four wounded on Sunday [3 January] in clashes between the two groups in Bekkersdal. A report says there were renewed clashes yesterday.

The Bekkersdal Monitoring Committee has issued an ultimatum to the two parties to agree to a meeting by this afternoon.

ANC Demands Police Prevent Wit Wolwe Attacks

*MB0601060293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1826
GMT 5 Jan 93*

[SAPA PR Wire Service issued by African National Congress]

[Text] The African National Congress [ANC] is concerned about the flagrantly racist threats that the Wit Wolwe [White Wolf] repeats with impunity against Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation—MK; ANC military wing]. The government seems incapable or unwilling to act against these self-proclaimed Wit Wolwe who incite racial violence.

The ANC is committed to a peaceful and negotiated transition to a democratic South Africa. Umkhonto we Sizwe suspended all military activities in 1990. We have made numerous calls to all organisations to commit themselves to a peaceful settlement. We will continue to do so, but for the sake of our country's future the violent and racist actions of Barend Strydom and those who make common cause with him cannot be tolerated.

A psychologist who treated Strydom in prison issued a stern warning that she believes Strydom is a danger to society and may kill again. In order to placate right wingers the government decided to ignore such professional advice. It was their decision to accept that his heinous crimes were committed in defence of apartheid, and fell within their definition of a legitimate political act. Having done so the government will also have to accept full responsibility for any future atrocities Strydom and his followers might commit.

We demand that the South African Police take the necessary action to prevent the so-called Wit Wolwe from carrying out their violent threats and ensure the security of members of MK.

White Wolves Member Rejects Suspension

*MB0601171293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1324
GMT 6 Jan 93*

[Excerpts] Pretoria Jan 6 SAPA—A major rift has surfaced in the ultra-right-wing organisation Wit Wolwe (WW) [White Wolves] with the suspension on Wednesday of all members belonging to the fundamentalist extreme right-wing "Kerk van die Skepper" (Church of the Creator) group. Wit Wolwe leader Barend Strydom said all links between his organisation and the fundamentalists were to be severed immediately.

Facing suspension is the WW's second most prominent member, "Boerstaat" Bosman, who is also a member of the Kerk van die Skepper. But a defiant Mr Bosman on

Wednesday [6 January] said he did not accept his suspension from the WW and would refuse to go. He had already met the WW "chief of staff", whose identity is unknown, and found support for his cause, he said. The WW chief of staff had the "real say" in the organisation because of the stringent parole conditions imposed on Strydom, he added.

Mr Bosman disclosed that "many more" Kerk van die Skepper members were involved in the WW. Accusing Strydom of being unfit to lead the Wit Wolwe, Mr Bosman said he suspected his suspension was related to utterances made at the news conference earlier this week which might be probed by the police. Mr Bosman sprang to prominence when he was the only member of the organisation who did not appear in a balaclava to address journalists at the WW's first comprehensive news conference at Brits in the western Transvaal this week. [passage omitted]

Strydom and his parents-in-law had known for a long time that he was a member of the Kerk van die Skepper, Mr Bosman said. Mr Bosman, who is also a regional chairman of Robert van Tonder's Boerestaat [Boer Homeland] Party (BSP), said there had earlier been similar attempts to oust Kerk van die Skepper members from the BSP, but Mr van Tonder believed in freedom of religion.

Approached for comment, Mr van Tonder conceded there were members in his party who belonged to the fundamentalist church, but said his party concentrated on the "boerestaat" ideal and members were free to belong to any religion they wished.

ANC Urges Conscripts To Defy Whites Only Call-Up

*MB0501181293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1657
GMT 5 Jan 93*

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 5 SAPA—The African National Congress [ANC] on Tuesday [5 January] called on all conscripts to defy the whites-only January call-up for National Service and to ignore South African Defence Force [SADF] threats of prosecution. It called on the government to end all prosecutions of draft-dodgers, saying there was no justification in prosecuting people who were no longer prepared to serve in defence of apartheid.

The ANC stated it strongly rejected SADF threats of prosecution. "It is disappointing to note that the government still practices racial discrimination, exemplified by the fact that individuals can still be charged under whites-only laws. The ANC finds these prosecutions totally unacceptable," the organisation said in a statement.

Bruntville Hostel 'Set Alight' 5 Jan*MB0501102393 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0933
GMT 5 Jan 93*

[Text] Mooi River Jan 5 SAPA—Bruntville hostel outside Mooi River was set alight on Tuesday [5 January] for the fourth time in four days.

Police spokesman Capt Henry Budhram confirmed on Tuesday morning the hostel was burning. There was no-one in the hostel, he said, and it appeared that as in the previous attacks no-one had been injured. There were no further details.

On Saturday [2 January] the hostel kitchen was destroyed in an attack in which a gas cylinder was set alight. On Sunday, attackers attempted to set fire to the hostel with petrol-soaked mattresses, tyres and wood.

According to the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] the hostel was also petrol bombed on Monday morning.

Bruntville hostel was at the centre of a recent Goldstone Commission investigation which recommended it be fenced as soon as possible. This recommendation was welcomed by the African National Congress in Bruntville, but rejected by the IFP.

Government To Abolish Banana Board 31 Mar*MB0501172193 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1617
GMT 5 Jan 93*

[Text] Pretoria Jan 5 SAPA—The banana industry is to enter the free market system with the abolition of the Banana Board on March 31 this year. This was announced on Tuesday [5 January] in a joint statement by Minister of Agriculture Kraai van Niekerk and Banana Board Chairman Jean Minnaar. With the abolition of the banana scheme the Banana Board ceases its functions after about 35 years and becomes one of the first agricultural industries to again place its product in a free market environment.

It is envisaged that the assets of the Banana Board would be taken over by a public company which is to be established and which would be subject to free competition. The expected name of the new company will be Subtropical Fruit Marketing Exchange Limited, trading under the name Subtropico. Producers would have freedom of choice to trade with the company or not.

"The decision of the banana industry to to apply free market principles in the marketing of its product in future and thus to move away from the one-channel marketing scheme in terms of the Marketing Act (1968) indicates that organised agriculture is keeping pace with the changed circumstances within which it operates," the joint statement said.

The abolition of the banana scheme stems from an instruction to the Banana Board by producers last year which led to an investigation by experts in the private sector, government and the industry into the possible

restructuring of the board's functions and alternative forms of enterprise. A "decisive" majority of the experts voted for the abolition of the Banana Board and the establishment of a public company.

Company Exports Digital Communications*MB0401095193 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0851
GMT 4 Jan 93*

[SAPA PR Wire Service issued by De Kock and Kerkhoff Communications Consultants]

[Text] South African-based Plessey Tellumat is competing successfully against Japanese and Taiwanese high-tech companies in Britain, Europe and parts of Africa.

Orders worth more than 4.5 million Rand have already been received for Plessey Tellumat's South African-designed and manufactured ISX200 digital communications system, which was launched on the European market a few weeks ago.

The ISX200 was officially launched at Eurocomnet '92, which was held in Amsterdam. Ed Castleman, group export manager for Plessey Tellumat, says the company's Dutch distributors, Lasis Telematics, received more than 20 orders for exchanges as a result of the show.

Approval from the British telecommunications authority, Babt, is expected in March this year.

However, the ISX is already making inroads in the British market following a 'sneak preview' at the TMA 25 exhibition held in Brighton during December. Twelve potential new dealers have been identified and a number of orders are waiting to be filled once Babt approval has been received.

Plessey's exchanges are already in use in Malawi and negotiations are well under way in Kenya, Zambia and Nigeria, according to Castleman. [Issued] January 1993

6 January Review of Current Events, Issues*MB0601115093*

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

'Common Fanaticism' Links APLA, AWB—"There is a tendency to place APLA [Azanian People's Liberation Army] zealots and AWB [Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging; Afrikaner Resistance Movement] bigots—and their demented kinsmen in the Wit Wolwe (WW) [White Wolves]—at the opposite ends of the political spectrum," begins a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 6 January. "That is a mistake. They belong together, linked by a common fanaticism and a common threat to the fragile peace process." "The white extremists in the AWB and the WW perceive themselves as the nemesis of APLA. They are nothing of the sort. If they take the law into their own hands, as the WW has threatened to do, they will

act as recruiting agents for APLA. A series of ill-considered attacks on black civilians will increase APLA's appeal in the black community."

BUSINESS DAY

Ballot Verdicts Hold Little Meaning in Africa—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 6 January in a page 4 editorial remarks that "the pattern has been disturbingly similar, first in Angola and now in Kenya. The losers of multiparty elections have simply refused to accept the result, or the verdict of international observers that it was fairly reached. With the shining exception of Zambia's poll in 1991, when the Kaunda government gave up power, the verdict of a ballot has apparently meant little in the painstakingly organised elections in several parts of Africa's former one-party states." Malawi holds a multiparty referendum in March, and free elections in Mozambique and South Africa may follow, and "if the hoary old defence of one-party states is not to be vindicated, multipartyism's next tests in Africa must have more magnanimous winners and more dignified losers."

SOWETAN

Unions Realistic About Wage Increases—Although black wages are "still far below those of whites on the average," the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the National Council of Trade Unions are "being realistic in opting for moderate wage increases," notes a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 6 January. Marginal mines are "staring bankruptcy in the face and more workers, in addition to the 200,000 who were laid off last year, could be on their way out."

* Key Economic Sectors: Cooperation With RSA

93AF0274A Johannesburg ENGINEERING NEWS in English 27 Nov 92 p 3

[Article by Karen Sutton]

[Text] South Africa's Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is investigating the possibility of initiating an urban renewal project in Brazzaville, Congo.

Following his visit to the central African country last month, Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Renier Schoeman tells THE ENGINEERING NEWS that major investments in transport infrastructure are also needed to secure access to all parts of the Congo.

CSIR's manager for business development in Africa Loic Desselas confirms that the council will embark on a 10-day fact-finding mission towards the end of November to investigate urban development in the Congo.

"We'll be looking at two aspects in particular: road rehabilitation and town planning, which includes the promotion of low-cost housing."

The CSIR's local partner in the Congo is the Ministry of Public Works, Construction and Housing, says Desselas.

"Part of the mission is to inform the Congolese of the expertise, technology and know-how of all South African companies in these fields," he says.

The visit could lead to contracts in the Congo for South African construction companies, says Schoeman.

Co-operation between South Africa and the Congo in the mining industry also seems likely with the Congolese Department of Mining planning an exhibition and seminar in South Africa on mining prospects in the Congo.

While mining operations are currently not significant in the country the Congolese are reportedly hoping to expand this sector.

Other projects suited to South African involvement include the development of a furniture industry, the extraction of bitumen for the construction of roads and the development of the granite industry, says Schoeman.

He has also been reported as saying that the Congo's extensive hardwood and oil resources hold "enormous potential" for South African business.

The Congo is the fourth largest oil producer in sub-Saharan Africa with an output of 8.02-million tons in 1991. Apart from oil, the only major resource exploited is timber with rain forests covering about 55 per cent of the country's land area.

"The Congo uses the Communaute Financiere Africaine (CFA) franc which can be readily converted to the French franc," says Schoeman.

The high value of the CFA franc will make it difficult, but not impossible, for South African companies to stake a claim in Congolese companies which are on the verge of being privatised, he says.

However, the high value of the currency also means that revenue from local sales and the provision of services is in hard currency and can be readily repatriated through France, says Schoeman.

In addition, the high value makes South African exports more attractive to Congolese importers.

It is expected that the Congolese government will opt for partial privatisation by injecting a small amount of cash together with management expertise. It seems divisions of Hydro-Congo might be the first parastatals to be privatised.

"South African capital should be as welcome as any other, but there are also exciting opportunities for smaller enterprises where South African expertise rather than capital would be required," says Schoeman.

Good communication links exist between South Africa and the Congo with four direct flights weekly (TAP, Air Afrique and Sabena). In addition, a shipping line is provided Unicorn Lines.

"These communication routes are significantly shorter than those to Congo's main trading partners (France, the U.S.A. and Italy), says Schoeman.

*** Right-Wing Links to International Groups Explored**

93AF0278B Cape Town THE ARGUS in English 18 Nov 92 p 14

[Text] Johannesburg—A top-level delegation of Swedish policemen is in South Africa to investigate a bizarre link between a Swedish rightwing fanatic, suspected of shooting 10 immigrants, and South African neo-nazi groups.

John Alexander Ausonius, 39, a member of the White Aryan Resistance Movement of Sweden (VAM), has claimed the firearm he used to mow down his victims in Sweden earlier this year was obtained in South Africa.

He also told Swedish police that money stolen in bank robberies in Sweden was channelled to neo-nazi organisations in South Africa.

Swedish police found a notebook in his possession with a list of names and telephone numbers of South African right-wingers.

Organisations believed to have links with Mr Ausonius include the Afrikaner National Socialistic Movement, the South African Neo-Nazi Movement, the World Apartheid Movement, the White Liberation Movement and the Church of the Creator.

This is the first time strongly anti-apartheid Sweden has sent policemen to South Africa officially. The Swedish delegation consists of two detectives, state prosecutor Ulf Engberg and an advocate. They will spend two weeks in South Africa.

A police spokesman confirmed that the SAP [South African Police] was helping the Swedish officials.

He said Mr Ausonius was being detained in Stockholm in connection with several counts of attempted murder

and robbery, as well as the possession of firearms he allegedly obtained in South Africa.

Pretoria-based political risk consultant Dr Wim Booyse said yesterday there were international links between neo-nazi organisations all over the world. He said various South African far rightwing organisations named in the investigations shared dual membership and had common ideals.

Dr Booyse, who believed there was a revival of rightwing sentiments in South Africa, said it was known that money was channelled between the neo-Nazi organisations internationally.

Investigators believed Mr Ausonius and his South African counterparts were part of the international National Socialist White Revolution, an organisation fighting for the establishment of neo-nazi and white supremacist regimes worldwide.

It is known that an underground National Socialist cell on the campus of the University of Pretoria, exposed last year, had links with White Aryan Resistance movements worldwide, including Sweden.

Two members of the Pretoria cell, Jurgens Grobbelaar and Jurgen White, allegedly committed suicide in November last year after being cornered and trapped by police in the Kalahari sand-dunes near Upington.

The two, who had links with the Church of the Creator and the World Apartheid Movement, had an arsenal of weapons.

A French rightwinger, who had to flee from his own country for fuelling rightwing violence, was a member of the cell.

Mr Ausonius was arrested in June this year on suspicion of being involved in bank robberies. He had R150,000 on him.

A few weeks ago, however, a fisherman in Stockholm "caught" a firearm in one of the city's lakes and handed it over to the police. Forensics traced the weapon to Mr Ausonius, who confessed he had shot immigrants earlier this year.

The South African rightwing organisations mentioned by Mr Ausonius could not be contacted for comment.

Angola

Benguela, Lobito Suffer 'Intense Shelling'

MB0501124993 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Text] The situation in Benguela is marked by intense clashes between the National Police and elements of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA]. It all began at dawn today, but according to Oliveira Santos, Benguela provincial police commander, the situation is under control.

[Begin recording] [Santos] Right now the city of Benguela is under intense fire. It is being shelled from a distance by heavy weapons.

[Reporter] From where is the shelling coming?

[Santos] It is virtually throughout the city, particularly in the Casseque region, on the road to Baia Farta, which is occupied by former Angolan Armed Forces elements drawn from FALA. [sentence as heard]

[Reporter] What is the situation in the city? Who is in control of it now?

[Santos] Right now the police are.

[Reporter] We heard a while ago that UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] has called for a cessation of hostilities. Can you confirm that?

[Santos] Yes, I can, but UNITA has lost control over the elements who are in the Casseque region, on the road linking Baia Farta to Benguela.

[Reporter] Mr. Commander: What is the cause of the clashes?

[Santos] Well, at approximately 0100 yesterday, a patrol unit, headed by Superintendent Renato, went to investigate a case near a UNITA office. He spoke for a long time with the people there, but as he was returning to his car, he and three other elements were barbarically shot in the back. As a result of this UNITA action, Superintendent Renato was killed and the three others accompanying him seriously injured.

We tried to resolve the situation with the other side, but to no avail. They, however, promised that no further incidents would take place. At 0300, UNITA shelled the provincial police command, the provincial committee, and tried to shell the regional radio station. Right now, UNITA is shelling the city. In line with orders issued to us, we have not yet reacted.

[Reporter] Mr. Commander: In brief, one could say that intense fighting is going on in the city of Benguela as a whole.

[Santos] It stops every couple of minutes, but UNITA is perhaps rearming during the breaks. We are trying at all costs to see that UNITA controls its personnel.

[Reporter] Is this happening throughout the city or are there specific trouble spots?

[Santos] Well, it is virtually throughout Benguela, except for the coastal area.

[Reporter] What is the situation in Lobito?

[Santos] We are adopting the same calm attitude. UNITA tried to shell one of our units in the Flamingo area. UNITA fired several 81-mm mortars at (Rusting). One of our officers was hit and seriously wounded. [end recording]

In Lobito intense fire is being exchanged between the police and FALA elements. This follows a clash between UNITA troops and policemen. Crossfire is taking place throughout the city. UNITA troops are deployed in the city center and in Lobito's highlands, but most of the city is controlled by the police.

Fighting Continues 6 Jan

MB0601064993 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 6 Jan 93

[Text] Latest reports on the situation in Benguela and Lobito speak of continued shelling of the two cities by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] and of street clashes. The police are in control of Benguela's urban centers, while UNITA troops are deployed in the outlying areas of the city. There are reports that the city of Lobito is divided, with the police forces in control of most of the city center, including the port. UNITA is in Lobito's highlands.

In Namibe Province, the police are in control of the situation, though there are reports of tension in Tombua.

In Malange, particularly the provincial capital, the political and military situation is calm. According to Police Commander Lauriano Neto, UNITA and Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola elements continue to move in Cangandala District, 26 km from the city of Malange, and have withdrawn their forces from Lombe Commune, in Cacuso District. He added that an unidentified number of UNITA soldiers have been detained by the National Police in the outlying areas of the city of Malange.

Cuito Comes Under Fire

LD0601110893 Lisbon RDP Antena 1 Radio Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 6 Jan 93

[Excerpt] The city of Cuito, capital of Bie Province, has been under intensive artillery fire since this morning. Mendes Lopes reports live from Luanda:

[Lopes] The city of Cuito continues under fire. UNITA is at the moment bombing the hospital, apparently to prevent the police from using it. The exact number of victims is not known, but it is known that the conflicts have caused an undetermined number of dead and injured. The clashes started when members of Jonas

Savimbi's personal guard tried to take by force the official residence of the province's representative of the interior ministry, (Francisco Massoca).

At the moment the police control the city, including the airport, but they are coming up against strong UNITA resistance. UNITA has mobilized its men under confinement in the Cambandua region, about 40 km south of Cuito.

According to ANGOP reports this morning, the unified armed forces, FAA, are not yet involved in the confrontations. Cambandua is on the quickest route UNITA has been using to approach Jamba, its former headquarters and where it maintains considerable reserve forces. [passage omitted]

Fighting Spreads to Namibe

MB0501134493 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Report on interview with Quim Ribeiro, Namibe Provincial Police commander, on 5 January; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] The city of Namibe has been under fire since early this morning. The clashes, which commenced at 0515 [0415 GMT], arise from constant provocations by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], to which the local government officials have consistently turned a blind eye, seeking dialogue as a means to settle differences. Jonas Savimbi's organization has perceived this approach to be a sign of weakness, so it has mobilized and armed its militants, sympathizers, and supporters with the aim of hitting social and economic targets, as well as destabilizing the ongoing Angolan peace process.

Today's clashes have spread to virtually every part of Namibe Province, but were particularly harsh in Tombua, Bibala, Camucuio, and Virei. Reports from those areas say the forces of law and order are in control and holding senior UNITA officials for Namibe Province, including Provincial Secretary (Carlos Alberto Calitas). Provincial Police Commander Quim Ribeiro has had this to say:

[Begin recording] [Ribeiro] Events in this province are the result of the provocative behavior UNITA has been displaying for some time and, in particular, since the incident in which three of our agents were killed in Lucira commune. Perhaps because of the Angolan police's flexible and moderate behavior so far, UNITA may have thought it could continue to behave provocatively. In this way [words indistinct] in which we live, UNITA tried to provoke the police. The police had to react. That led to clashes which spread to just about every district of the province.

[Unidentified reporter] Could you give us any information on victims and on anything else you may deem opportune at this stage?

[Ribeiro] I think it is much too early to make an assessment. It is useful to note, though, that the police have once again enjoyed the support of the whole population. The people have had enough of UNITA's behavior, so they have joined the police and made it clear that this behavior must cease in this province. We hope to give more detailed reports soon.

[Reporter] How do you see the situation in the districts?

[Ribeiro] The police are in full control of the situation. Nonetheless, you know that at times such as these there are always some instances of uncontrolled behavior, whether we—or UNITA—are guilty of it. The situation in Tombua District is still a source of concern to us. The situation in Bibala and Camucuio districts is under control.

[Reporter] Are some of the UNITA officials for Namibe Province now in custody or were they also involved in the clashes?

[Ribeiro] [Words indistinct] it is not the police's wish to carry out a massacre or genocide. We have been very careful about avoiding deaths. In this way, we are holding at this stage some influential UNITA officials, notably the provincial delegate, the second secretary, and other members of the UNITA Party Provincial Committee. [end recording]

[Announcer] It is important to note that the police are practically in control of the situation in the city of Namibe, the provincial capital. Only the situation in Tombua continues to demand greater attention from the forces of law and order.

Prime Minister Blames UNITA for Clashes

MB0501194393 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Text] Speaking during an interview with Portugal's TSF Radio today, Angolan Prime Minister Marcolino Moco blamed the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] for clashes in various parts of Angolan territory.

[Begin recording] [Moco] People are fed up with UNITA's behavior. The police have also had enough. UNITA says one thing but does another. I think that this is the principal conclusion we can draw from current events [words indistinct] calm so the peace process can resume in Angola.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] know about the indignation expressed by UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali?

[Moco] Yes, obviously.

[Reporter] How would you describe the secretary general's attitude?

[Moco] I think it is a natural attitude. He is worried; everyone is worried. Nonetheless, the blame must be

fully laid at UNITA's door. I have already said that the United Nations and the international community as a whole should be more rigorous regarding who is to blame for events in this country, UNITA—that is, if the international community wants to help resolve the problem. The failure to report clearly who is to blame has only encouraged Mr. Jonas Savimbi and his organization to continue.

I think the country is at war. It is an undeclared war, but we are at war nevertheless. UNITA is waging the war. Everyone knows what is going on. Mr. Jonas Savimbi does not want to comply with the accords. He wants to take over by force. He does not want to accept the electoral results. It is all quite clear [words indistinct] through our comrades in government, we have tried to maintain constant contacts in an attempt to settle the problem [words indistinct] observe their duties in terms of the Bicesse Accords.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] this decision?

[Moco] I think so. It must be (?precise).

[Reporter] What if UNITA does not reconsider?

[Moco] It will be forced to reconsider. The Angolan people will have to force it to do so. The Lubango incident is a clear reflection of the people's impatience [words indistinct] will help Angolans force UNITA to stay in its own place. [end recording]

Ndalatando Attacks Leave 'Alarming Levels' of Chemicals

MB0601072993 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0500 GMT 6 Jan 93

[Excerpt] The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party's chemical warfare in the city of Ndalatando is having alarming repercussions among the residents, particularly children, as well as on the environment. Expert analysis revealed alarming levels of highly toxic chemical products. There are vestiges of sulphuric and hydrochloric acids in the atmosphere. Unusual levels of carbon dioxide have also been reported. Soil analysis revealed traces of phosphorus and lead. [passage omitted]

MPLA Accused of Planning 'Tribal Cleansing'

MB0501200793 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 1200 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Station commentary: "The Belligerent Behavior of Eduardo dos Santos' Organization"]

[Text] The sad events of Lubango on 3 January represent Eduardo dos Santos' organization's indomitable desire and detailed (?plans) to conduct political and tribal cleansing. In the wake of the catastrophe that rocked

Luanda in October and November, Eduardo dos Santos—true to his own peculiar brand of sadism—planned the same fate for the various parts of Angolan territory: tribal genocide and the decapitation of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola's [UNITA].

In view of that, it is not difficult to describe the reasoning behind the ruling regime's pretexts when it blames UNITA for inciting clashes in Lubango and other (?areas closer by). The visceral hatred of the Marxists—with or without PT [Labor Party]—and its satellites is preventing democracy from taking root in this country. What is more, it is pushing the Angolan people toward destructive war yet again. The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] chiefs, backed by the press in the pay of the regime, are delivering speeches to all and sundry, and throwing sand in the eyes of Angolans and of the international community. Their arguments are futile, though. They reflect their antipatriotism, bad faith, and contempt for human life. The Futungo de Belas Palace's chiefs have a concept of democracy that values only the lives of MPLA comrades and their lackeys.

This discriminatory and criminal massacre, planned by the MPLA leadership and carried out by those executioners that are special troops in the so-called Angolan Police, aimed to undermine UN Special Representative Margaret Anstee's efforts to set the inconclusive peace process back on track. Because of the MPLA, that process is increasingly drifting away from the path of negotiations. Real opposition cannot now doubt the belligerent, arrogant, tribal, and antidemocratic nature of Eduardo dos Santos and his organization. The fatherland is in danger. The government's intolerance has reached an extreme, and the peace- and democracy-loving world must no longer stand with folded arms in the face of MPLA repression and totalitarianism.

Eduardo dos Santos and his organization must be called to reason and forced to abandon their warmongering appetites. They must learn to practice the values of human civilization. In view of the troubled times facing our fatherland, the Angolan people, the religious institutions—which were discriminated against by those same men who continue to kill their brethren today—and real opposition parties must unite their voices to condemn the MPLA's irrational belligerence.

UNITA remains committed to the goals that seek to bring real peace and democracy to Angola.

Long live peace!

Long live genuine democracy!

Forward with the peace process! Dr. Savimbi is our choice!

UN's Anstee Meets Dos Santos*MB0501142593 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 5 Jan 93*

[Text] Margaret Anstee, the special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola, continues to find that the UN Angola Verification Mission-2 [UNAVEM-2] has a difficult role to play, but believes it is possible to restore peace to Angola. Anstee said this after being received by Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos this morning. The meeting focused on the issue of peace.

[Begin Anstee recording, in Spanish] Those who criticize UNAVEM-2 should realize we have an extremely difficult and dangerous task to carry out. There are many devoted people who are making great sacrifices to work here. We sympathize with the Angolan people. We see they want peace. We are willing to work, but I would like to call for a greater understanding of what we are trying to do and the difficulties we are faced with. We are working in good faith and we want to work even more but, to that end, we need firm indications that both sides will cease hostilities and return to the negotiating table, which will then enable us to have a much larger presence here. Our aim is not to intervene, but to help Angola in its efforts (?for peace). We would also like to have a force whose powers would allow it to help fulfill some inflated expectations at this stage. [end recording]

Margaret Anstee said UNAVEM-2 will continue to work to restore the spirit of Namibe. Commenting on the role UNAVEM-2 has been playing with a view to implementing the peace process, Anstee discussed the government's recent rejection of the UN secretary general's proposal concerning a summit meeting between Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA].

[Begin Anstee recording, in Spanish] We must also have a clear understanding of what the UN secretary general's aims were. The secretary general takes a great interest in the Angolan problem. He wanted to [words indistinct] a UN Security Council member's suggestion. He believes that would facilitate a meeting between the two leaders. Obviously, if that is not possible, we must try and find some other solution. Nonetheless, I believe that what is important at this stage is to return to the Namibe talks. I do not think a summit meeting between the two leaders will make much sense, unless there is a solid basic understanding between the two sides. [end recording]

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos also received a team of four Huambo traditional leaders this morning, who are thought to have expressed their concern about the situation in the country at large and in their province in particular.

Comments on Situation*MB0501164393 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 5 Jan 93*

[Text] Angola is currently going through the worst tension it has experienced since the holding of UN-supervised elections last year. Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos received Margaret Anstee, special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola, today. At the time of the interview there was no idea yet of the general situation in the country as reported in this newscast. However, it was already known that Lubango and Benguela were experiencing instability. Anstee therefore addressed the media when everyone already predicted a deteriorating situation.

[Begin recording] [Anstee, in Spanish] I left New York with specific instructions from the UN secretary general to approach the president and Dr. Savimbi as soon as possible regarding our talks in New York. Obviously, many things have happened since my return, so we exchanged ideas on the country's worrisome situation, ways to overcome it, and ways of achieving the three things we believe to be most important at this time: first, an end to hostilities; second, a return to the negotiating table so we can continue the talks that commenced in Namibe on 26 November; and, also, an accord on the future tasks and powers of the UN Angola Verification Mission-2 [UNAVEM-2] so the UN Security Council can make a decision before the end of this month.

[Unidentified reporter] AFP reported a few days ago that UNAVEM would play the most active role in the Angolan peace process. How will it become more active in its role?

[Anstee] Well, this hinges first of all on an accord on the tasks and on the official (?report) being presented to the UN secretary general in the next few days. What we think though, is that at the moment UNAVEM's mandate is restricted to verifying the process of joint consultation and monitoring by the signatories of the Bicesse Accords or, in other words, the government and the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA]. We are unable to intervene directly, so we must work together with the two sides. There is the idea that the two sides appear to be in agreement regarding basic issues, such as verification, mediation, and the supervision of certain matters. UNAVEM must also serve as referee when there are [words indistinct] between the two sides. (?These are things we cannot do) at this time, but this implies we must greatly increase UNAVEM's human (?and other) resources.

[Reporter] You went to Huambo on 2 January to hold talks with Dr. Savimbi. Specifically, what did you discuss with Dr. Savimbi? How do you explain the fact that the Lubango clashes took place only two days later, and fighting has been reported in Benguela today?

[Anstee] Well, first of all, as I have told you before, we discussed UNAVEM's future with Dr. Savimbi. He told

me (?UNITA) wants to follow the steps that I have been suggesting, notably the cessation of hostilities to be followed by negotiations. Obviously, I view what happened thereafter as a tragedy because it widens the chasm between the two sides. It is very difficult for us to know how (?to prevent fighting) in those areas. To me, the problem is that no one will win the war. We must stop hostilities. The problem is that, irrespective of who begins it, provocations can only lead to further violence, retaliation, and I am very afraid that we may be in a spiral of violence that we may never be able to bring under control. Nevertheless, we do not [passage indistinct] to that particular issue. At this stage, it is extremely important that everyone become aware of the dangers involved and of the need to get back on the road to peace.

[Reporter] How would the United Nations view the government announcing a state of emergency in the face of the current situation in the country?

[Anstee] I do not think that it is for us to tell the government what it must or must not do. The Angolan issue is always of great importance to the UN Security Council. I think that the Angolan issue will be discussed in New York later today. Right now, though, we must do everything in our power to secure the cessation of hostilities.

[Reporter] One question: Have UNAVEM officials ever been poorly treated by the Angolan Police?

[Anstee] Well, [passage indistinct] first time that our people are molested by the Angolan Police, or by UNITA, but yes, a serious incident occurred in Lubango when [passage indistinct] surrounded our camp. The police entered the camp and killed one UNITA member who was a Joint Verification and Control Commission [CMVF] official who had requested asylum. There was also a problem at our camp in Ndalatando last week: UNITA took an Angolan Police agent from our hands. The secretary general is very concerned that UNAVEM cannot fulfill its mandate if there is no respect for its functions or premises. The president of the Republic has just conveyed to me his concern about what happened. He has asked me to relay the message to the UN secretary general (?that it was a mistake).

[Reporter] In view of the fact that we have reached this situation whereby either warring faction can enter UNAVEM premises at will to take away, detain, or even kill citizens and soldiers requesting political asylum, and in view of the fact that UNAVEM's premises are so easily violated, is that not a reflection of UNAVEM's weakness in the face of the difficult situation Angola is going through?

[Anstee] I do not know if [passage indistinct] in the final analysis, UNAVEM is doing its duties and fulfilling its mandate. But what can UNAVEM officials do against armed people coming into their camps? That does not demonstrate a weakness of UNAVEM. It demonstrates a lack of respect for the mandate [passage indistinct]

dangerous. There are many devoted people making sacrifices to work here. We sympathize with the Angolan people. We see they want peace. We are willing to work, but I would urge everyone to be more understanding about what we are trying to achieve and what difficulties we are faced with. We are working in good faith and we want to continue that work. To that end, we need firm indications that both sides will cease hostilities and return to the negotiating table. Then we will be able to have a much larger presence here, but our aim will not be to intervene. It is, rather, to help Angolan (?peace) efforts. Our force must also have powers that will enable it to realize the rather exaggerated expectations facing us at this time. [end recording]

Defense Ministry on UNITA Officers in FAA

MB0501141093 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Report from the Defense Ministry in Luanda by Samuel Chissengo]

[Text] Radio Angola has learned from the Defense Ministry, in Luanda, that the team which went to Lubango following 3 January's clashes is scheduled to return to the Angolan capital today. We have also learned that an inspection team has gone to Lubango to investigate the causes of the incidents on the ground.

A source in the Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] Chief of General Staff's Office has confirmed that senior National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] officers have been reintegrated into the FAA forces. Those senior officers had been in government custody until a few days ago. That measure does not affect, however, those UNITA generals who were part of the FAA but who signed the 5 October 1992 declaration, according to which they voluntarily withdrew from the army. The source added the status of those generals remains under study.

To cite a few names, the following officers are in government custody in Luanda: Generals Wambu, Mackenzie, Renato, Panguila, and Zacarias.

Minister Leaves To Seek Portuguese, Spanish Aid

MB0501054293 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 4 Jan 93

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Andre Pitra Petroff left Luanda today for Lisbon to seek Portuguese and Spanish financial support for new equipment for operative police units. ANGOP reports Minister Petroff also went to those two countries to discuss police training funds. [passage omitted]

Malawi**Opposition Groups List Objections to Referendum***MB0401195593 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1752 GMT 4 Jan 93*

[Text] Lusaka Jan 4 SAPA—Malawi opposition pressure groups met in Blantyre on Monday to map out logistics to present to the Malawi Government before the March 15 referendum in that country.

In a telephone interview from Blantyre a spokesman for the Alliance for Democracy (Aford) said in Lusaka the Malawi opposition groupings met to draw up objections to some of the regulations governing the referendum.

A statement would be issued later on Monday after a government reaction, he said.

Malawi opposition parties objected vehemently to having two ballot boxes at polling stations as "this is a recipe for intimidation and rigging".

The establishment of an independent referendum commission would be one of the several demands to be put forward to the Malawian authorities, the spokesman said.

UDF Chairman Discusses Upcoming Referendum*MB0501201693 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 5 Jan 93*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] While Malawi's opposition groups are relieved to hear President Banda fulfill his promise and name the day for a referendum on the country's political future, they still do not have confidence that it will be a free vote. The government insists that everything will be open and fair, but one of the two main opposition groups, the United Democratic Front [UDF] has issued a statement listing its worries, starting with the most basic issue of the date: 15 March. On the line to Blantyre, Josephine Hazeley asked UDF Chairman Bakili Muluzi what was wrong with 15 March.

[Begin recording] [Muluzi] There is no doubt that all Malawians wish that the referendum be held as soon as possible. However, we in UDF are not convinced that the entire referendum machinery can be set in place and effective registration, education, can be done within two months.

[Hazeley] Well, you also are not happy with the fact that it is being held during the rainy season?

[Muluzi] Well, yes, we actually have indicated that (?during) the rainy season in Malawi the roads are impassable, bridges are usually washed away, and most of the areas sometimes are inaccessible and, therefore, traveling to and from voter registration and voter [words indistinct] will be quite difficult, if not impossible.

[Hazeley] Meanwhile, surely you are worried about the ballot box and the transportation. In fact, you said you would want just one ballot box, but the government is insisting on more than one. Why do you not want more than one ballot box at the polling station?

[Muluzi] For a number of reasons. There can be a lot of intimidation if there are (?two) boxes. Maybe rigging can be avoided. I mean, we have yet to be told how the voting itself is going to be carried out and (?obviously) we have to be informed about it, but as of now we are saying it would be better to have one ballot box.

[Hazeley] What about the wording, or the question, that is going to be asked? Have you been told yet?

[Muluzi] Not at all.

[Hazeley] But do you not have any idea? You are in the UDF, do you not have a formula for asking this question?

[Muluzi] Well, I think the question should be: yes or no. We think that will be more appropriate. You are asking whether Malawi should continue to be a one-party state. Those people who are going to say yes—well they should [words indistinct] and say yes. Those people who believe that we should go into a multiparty system of government—their answer obviously should be the other way. [end recording]

Opposition Leader Chihana Applies for Bail*MB0501122993 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1110 GMT 5 Jan 93*

[Text] The Malawian opposition leader, Mr. Chakufwa Chihana, has applied for bail pending his appeal against conviction for sedition. Mr. Chihana's lawyer, Mr. Bazuka Mhango, said by telephone from Malawi that the bail application was submitted to a supreme court judge yesterday.

Mr. Chihana, aged 52 years, was sentenced to two years in prison with hard labor on 14 December on two counts of sedition for importing and possessing banned literature. He is a leading opponent of President for Life Dr. Kamuzu Banda who has called a referendum for 15 March on whether or not Malawi should remain a one-party state. Mr. Mhango says the legal authorities were preparing the record of the lower court to present to the Supreme Court for the appeal against Mr. Chihana's conviction and sentencing. The appeal hearing itself, he said, would depend on when the Supreme Court would be assembled.

Government Denies Sending Hit Squads To RSA*MB0501183593 Blantyre Malawi Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 5 Jan 93*

[Text] A spokesman for the Malawi Government has disputed a ZIANA [Zimbabwe Inter-African News Agency] report on (?23) December which said that the

Malawi Police are sending troops to South Africa to kill exiled Aford [Alliance for Democracy] members. The report also says that, contrary to [words indistinct] growing [words indistinct] are afraid to come back to Malawi because of fear of being arrested.

The spokesman described these allegations as ridiculous and completely groundless. He said the (?complainants) should have known that there are many law-abiding members of Aford in Malawi who are not being arrested. The spokesman pointed out that the exiled Aford member who is complaining and lying in the ZIANA article is not decent enough to admit and (?reveal) that he and other colleagues are [words indistinct] from criminal justice in Malawi. He said all political detainees have been released in Malawi and the fact that these exiles [words indistinct] merely shows that their [words indistinct] are not [words indistinct] on the claim that [words indistinct] the spokesman said no [words indistinct] Malawi Congress Party [words indistinct] what happened in [words indistinct] is not fighting for democracy [words indistinct] the spokesman said [words indistinct] that the question of multipartyism [words indistinct] at a time when [words indistinct].

Mozambique

Chissano Addresses Diplomatic Corps 4 Jan

MB0501081693 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network
in Portuguese 0500 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Text] President of the Republic Joaquim Chissano says he expects 1993 to be the year of consolidation of the country's hard won peace. He was speaking at a New Year function hosted for the diplomatic corps accredited in Maputo. In his speech, President Chissano gave a brief account of the peace process and the general role to be played by the United Nations.

Chissano added that the consolidation and success of the General Peace Accord of necessity depends on the involvement of every Mozambican and the international community in the implementation of the major tasks included in the Rome accord. Specifically, he mentioned the demobilization and integration of Mozambique Armed Forces and Mozambique National Resistance elements, the repatriation and resettlement of refugees and displaced persons, the preparations for the general elections, and national reconstruction. President Chissano said that the implementation of the peace accord requires financial and material resources which the Mozambican Government cannot provide on its own. He thanked the international community for the aid it has given Mozambique.

Turning to bilateral cooperation, the Mozambican head of state said that in 1992 our country expanded and consolidated cooperation and friendly relations with several countries.

The diplomatic corps read a message, stating that it will make every effort to assist our country morally and materially in the consolidation of peace and in the development of the economy.

Dhlakama: Renamo Will Not Resort to Arms

MB0501092893 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network
in Portuguese 0500 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Text] Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo], has said that this year his movement will step up its political struggle in Mozambique in order to guarantee a clear-cut democracy among all layers of society. Speaking to Mozambican newsmen at a news conference in Maringue, Afonso Dhlakama guaranteed that his movement will not resort to arms again because the aim of the struggle has been achieved.

Dhlakama States Conditions To Return to Maputo

MB0401193393 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network
in Portuguese 1730 GMT 4 Jan 93

[Text] Mozambique National Resistance leader Afonso Dhlakama has said that he will leave Gorongosa for Maputo only when his organization is guaranteed working conditions by the government, notably offices and provision of houses for other members of his movement. Afonso Dhlakama said at a news conference given to Mozambican journalists in Maringue that the government's failure to create such conditions constitutes a violation of the general peace accord signed in Rome.

Swaziland

Prime Minister Delivers End of Year Address

MB0101081793 Mbabane Swazi Television in English
1830 GMT 31 Dec 92

[New Year address by Swaziland Prime Minister Obed Dlamini; place, date not given—recorded]

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Obed Dlamini, has said the number of government employees was too high and would be reduced. The prime minister said this in his end of the year message to the nation.

[Begin Dlamini recording] As head of His Majesty's government may I take this opportunity to thank most heartily the entire Swazi nation for your continued and unflinching support, guidance, and cooperation that you have so kindly and generously given me and the government in the past year, in carrying out the responsibilities you have entrusted upon us. On the domestic front, 1992 was an eventful year in more ways than one. One particularly notable development was the persistent drought and the resultant negative effects on the mainly agricultural, livestock, and agro-based industries. Low levels of production, increased retrenchments, and unemployments characterized this important sector of

our economy. For the first time in memory large sections of our society, especially in the lowveld and middle veld, had to rely entirely on food aid and emergency assistance of one type or the other.

Associated closely with the drought has been the outbreak of a number of diseases such as cholera and diarrhea that have claimed some lives and rendered some of our people economically inactive. Within a year our dreams of self sufficiency on food and health for all by the year 2000 have been rendered more doubtful than ever before. The drought has also demonstrated: One, there is need for government, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, to review as a matter of priority, our agricultural policies, strategies, and methods of production and storage of our food requirements. Two, our preparedness for emergency situations in general, but in particular, our food security requires to be given the priority that it deserves. In this context government, should as a matter of priority, embark on the rehabilitation and construction of dams throughout the country for conserving water for both domestic and agricultural schemes to boost our food production. Three, the finalization of the resettlement program, a comprehensive livestock development strategy, and rehabilitation of eroded lands and conservation of our natural resources should be a top priority for every Swazi, being fully assisted by the relevant government ministries.

It is, however, gratifying to note that throughout these difficult times we have not been alone. May I at this juncture convey His Majesty's government's thanks, and that of the entire Swazi nation, to our friends in the international community, the private sector, nongovernmental organizations, and the private individuals who heard and responded generously to our distress call for help. Friends indeed are those people who come to your assistance when you need them the most. The drought itself is by no means over though we have had some promising rains, especially in the highveld, over the last two months. The greatest challenge still lies ahead. The challenge of recovery and rehabilitation from the effects of the drought. Once again we will continue to count on the support and goodwill of our friends in the international community and our citizens for assistance. [end recording]

The prime minister also said government was concerned about the deficit in the government's budget which he said would be incurred during the 1992-93 financial year.

[Begin recording] Another area of major concern that impacted negatively on Swaziland has been the continuing world economic depression. In 1992 the economy moved into a deficit for the first time since 1986-87 financial year. The Minister of Finance has projected that the deficit for 1992-93 will be approximately 50 million and probably more for 1993-94. This deficit has been occasioned by mainly two factors: first, the government recurrent expenditure increasing more than revenue collected, and secondly, more importantly, by the improved government ability to implement a major proportion of (high) capital projects. In this connection I am happy to note that the Ministry of

Works and Construction has been instrumental in implementing these government projects. Some of the major infrastructural development programs that have been undertaken in 1992 are ongoing, and these are the Manzini-Mbabane highway, the rehabilitation of the Tshaneni-Mlawula road, the Big Bend-Helehele road, upgrading of Mbabane-Mhlambanyatsi roads and Lukhala-Big Bend road. Other district roads and minor bridges have also received some attention. Preparatory work is also being undertaken to upgrade all our major road networks in the foreseeable future.

The Ministry of Works and Construction has also embarked on rehabilitation and maintenance of government buildings throughout the country, including the construction of teachers' houses. These works and new constructions will require a tremendous effort by the Ministry of Works and Communication to get the job done. The ministry will continue to engage both its own work force and contract out most of the work to the private sector. This we believe is one of the many ways through which government could stimulate the economic activity, thus bringing about economic growth, create job opportunities whilst improving and upgrading the nation's infrastructure and the provision of services such as health and education.

We in government believe that such an investment is an investment into our future economic prosperity. Ladies and gentlemen, as if these challenges were not enough to keep our hands full, crime accompanied by violence and general lawlessness continued to haunt us all in 1992. The security of the private investment and life itself is being threatened as never before in our country. These are acts of sabotage that undermine our economic prosperity and social wellbeing, which should be condemned and uprooted from our midst by all peace-loving Swazis. His Majesty's government is prepared and resolved to engage our security forces to track down, apprehend, and bring to justice these troublemakers.

The outlook for 1993: It is against this background that I look forward to 1993 as a year of renewal and a year that may well see the end of the prolonged real output contractions of 1990-92 worldwide and a return to (?modest) economic growth.

Secondly, it should be a year when we should double up our efforts to prepare our policy opinions or options, particularly long term, mobilizing the hidden strength of all our profit generating enterprise and initiatives. The evolving socio-economic situation in the Republic of South Africa, and the budgetary deficit I have alluded to earlier on, calls to review as a matter of priority a number of existing arrangements. For instance, let us imagine what would happen to our deficit if the revenue we receive from the Southern African Customs Union was to suddenly drop in a year or two. Given the size of

our economy, I have no doubt it will not be easy to find alternative sources of revenue without becoming a heavily indebted nation. What would happen to our unemployment situation if all the Swazis who are employed in the mines in South Africa and elsewhere were to suddenly come home. I shudder to think of this prospect, but we must start now to investigate new avenues of raising our revenue to finance our budget. I am happy to report that the Ministry of Finance and the revenue collection areas are working hard on developments in this area.

There is need for a strategy that should be spearheaded by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to vigorously promote trade and our participation in the regional market place and in the world economy. Expanding our exports is critical to future growth and the creation of new jobs and wealth. There is need to reinforce public and private efforts to enhance our competitiveness through education and training of skilled manpower, research and development, and inculcating the entrepreneurial spirit amongst our people. [end recording]

Benin

President Soglo Delivers New Year Message

AB0301112693 Dakar PANA in French 1252 GMT
1 Jan 93

[Text] Cotonou, 1 Jan (APB-BEN/PANA)—“The struggle for the construction of a law-abiding state shows that democracy is a condition that is never definitely established,” Beninese head of state Nicephore Soglo stated yesterday in a radio and television message.

After taking stock of his activities, President Soglo explained that the new institutions provided under the Constitution have not been established yet due to the lack of funds. He pointed out that this state of affairs does not stem from a desire to block the situation. “It is my wish that the improvement of our resources during the new year will enable us to establish the Constitutional Council, High Audiovisual and Communications Authority, and Economic and Social Council.”

On the economic situation, President Soglo disclosed that economic growth, estimated over the 1986 to 1989 period at 7.1 percent, had risen in two years to 4.7 percent. He expressed satisfaction over the revenue collected, stating that in this area the objectives have been largely attained: 61.5 billion CFA francs were collected against the 57.8 billion provided under the structural adjustment program drawn up with the World Bank and the IMF.

President Soglo also indicated that the revival of commercial activities and tourism had greatly enhanced the economic performance recorded by his country.

Before concluding his message to the nation, he underscored the importance of the social sector which, he said, should be sustained by economic growth.

Finally, the head of state granted total remission of sentences for prisoners suffering from severe illness, a certain category of women detainees, and minors.

Burkina Faso

Compaore Addresses Nation for New Year

AB0301101793 Ouagadougou Radiodiffusion Nationale du Burkina Radio in French 1900 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] On the occasion of the New Year, the president of Burkina Faso addressed the nation yesterday in an end-of-year message. While recalling the rich experience gained by the Burkinabe people in the passing year, Blaise Compaore stressed the urgent duty of maintaining the tempo by further consolidating individual and collective freedoms, and better safeguarding respect for human rights.

Burkina's president said 1993 will be the year for accelerating the process for change and the reorganization necessary for the economic system. Under such circumstances, structural adjustment is essential for creating a more favorable and conducive climate to establish the necessary atmosphere of confidence to stimulate the inflow of fresh resources for gradual financing of productive investments. In order to always ensure a constantly equitable and socially balanced sharing of adjustment cost, there is need for dialogue and consultation. Here is the president:

[Begin Compaore recording] I reiterate to workers and their organizations the need to establish an atmosphere of peace and stability, the only guarantee for economic progress that permits us to improve our living and working conditions. Confrontations are only detrimental to development. In the first quarter of 1993, we must strive to set up a broad-based, sustained, and sincere social dialogue, between all sides—the state, employers, and labor unions—to find solutions to the most legitimate demands of workers and create the social charter that I strongly advocate. It must translate into intangible principles the paths of permanent consultations among all those contributing to the building of our national economy and spare us from fruitless conflicts.

This dialogue and these consultations should also prevail in our education system and training centers, where we should establish an atmosphere of stability and peace necessary for a qualitative education. Perhaps, here too, we must strive toward the drawing up of a charter for the various training and educational entities covering our schools and universities. [end recording]

Ghana

Final Parliamentary Election Results Released

AB0301191593 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 1300 GMT 3 Jan 93

[Text] The National Democratic Congress [NDC] won 95 percent of seats in last Tuesday's [29 December] parliamentary elections. The GHANA NEWS AGENCY quoted the final results, released by the Interim National Electoral Commission, as the NDC, 190 seats 22 of which were unopposed. The National Convention Party won seven seats, or 3.5 percent while the EGLE [Every Ghanaian Living Everywhere] Party had one seat.

Two independent candidates also won seats representing one percent. In all, 429 candidates from the three parties and 12 independent candidates contested 178 seats of the 200 parliamentary seats.

Four parties, the New Patriotic Party, the People's National Convention, the National Independence Party, and the People's Heritage Party boycotted the polls because of alleged rigging of the presidential election last November.

The parliamentary elections are the final phase of the PNDC's [Provisional National Defense Council] program to return the country to constitutional rule.

Guinea

President Conte Delivers New Year Address

AB0301064593 Conakry Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique de Guinee in French 2000 GMT 31 Dec 92

[Address by President Lansana Conte in Conakry on 31 December—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Guinean men and women, dear countrymen, in keeping with the commitment made before the people, 1992 turned out to be the year of consolidation of national unity, the gradual setting up of republican institutions, and the observance of a rigorous financial austerity policy leading to a considerable reduction of the state's lifestyle.

On national unity, it is comforting to note that in spite of the serious social and political disturbances which characterized the contemporary world in general and Guinea in particular, our country was spared thanks to God and to the assistance of all men of goodwill. We must realize that Guinea today represents an island of peace. All sons and daughters of the country are duty bound to preserve this precious gain. No amount of effort is ever too much for this purpose. [passage omitted]

The setting up of institutions provided for under the Constitution is going ahead gradually. The rate at which this is done obviously depends on the state's financial resources. In this regard, the Supreme Court and the National Communications Council are already installed, and the means required for their function have been catered to in the 1993 budget.

The financial austerity policy led to the restructuring and significant reduction of the size of the Cabinet, the membership of the Transitional Committee for National Regeneration, and the number of our diplomatic missions. The same goes for the state's real estate and equity. To this end, a national commission has been set up to propose to the government appropriate methods of real-locating these assets.

Dear countrymen, the year just ending was marked by major reforms and achievements in all sectors of national life. Here, the bulk of our effort was directed to agriculture, animal husbandry, fishing, road infrastructure, education, and health. [passage omitted]

Indeed, in spite of the still high volume of imported food, we notice an intensification and diversification of food and industrial crop cultivation. The government pledges to pursue a dynamic agricultural policy which will, as soon as possible, reverse the present adverse trend—namely the low level of exports in relation to imports. [passage omitted]

Rural development is a factor of social and economic stimulus and change. It is a process involving the transformation of the farming community. It is in this regard that the government invested resources in providing rural radio

services in Guinea's natural regions. Economic growth largely depends on developing agriculture, which constitutes the main activity of 90 percent of the population. This growth must be directed so as to accord priority to the fight against poverty, unemployment, and inequality. In this vein, the government has earmarked substantial financial resources to revamp the private sector through the Support and Promotion Fund. [passage omitted]

In the health field, it should be noted that in addition to the 236 health centers built by 1991, 50 others became operational during the year which is now drawing to a close. [passage omitted]

But in this area, there is still a lot left to be done. Thus, the 1993 national budget gave prominence to the issue. Regarding maternity and child care centers, thanks to the participation of foreign nongovernmental organizations and international organizations, there has been a very sharp increase in the number of primary health delivery centers. [passage omitted]

In the education sector, another government priority, action concentrated basically on providing key school and university facilities, increasing the school attendance rate which went up from 26 to 32 percent, and redeploying the teaching staff and providing training.

In the water sector, the results attained are encouraging. Investments made in this area not only enabled the development of new water supply systems but also rehabilitated old facilities in both Conakry and in the hinterland.

Concerning electric energy, the government continues to be concerned about unsatisfactory performance in the sector. However, the steps taken to remedy the situation are beginning to bear fruit. Agreements recently concluded with donors will enable us to improve the situation in Conakry. The Garafiri Dam Project will largely supplement the energy deficit experienced by our country.

Dear countrymen, I have often said that, above all, a law-abiding state demands the respect of the rules of the democratic game. There cannot be a law-abiding state without respect for the law. The use of force is the prerogative of only the law. No citizen has the right to take the law into his own hands. This is why the government has resolutely undertaken to reorganize the judicial sector. [passage omitted]

The security situation is still alarming with the huge and uncontrolled influx of thugs from neighboring and other countries. They are generally expert in causing trouble and disorder. They are responsible for the recent senseless acts of violence and vandalism in some of our prefectures. There can, however, be no peace or democracy without security. Henceforth, the law will be rigorously applied to all regardless of the cost. [passage omitted]

Externally, we are following with interest, the serious crisis hitting some countries in our subregion. The increasing insecurity is liable to dangerously compromise the political stability and the economic development of our countries. This is why the last summit of the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS] assumed its responsibility and asked for the strengthening of the ECOWAS Cease-Fire Monitoring Group [ECOMOG] as well as for more commitment on the part of the intervention force in putting down the rebellion. ECOWAS also requested UN assistance in the implementation of its peace plan. I seize this opportunity to congratulate our valiant Army for its quality contribution within ECOMOG and in Sierra Leone.

We support the Palestinian, Somali, and Yugoslav causes and encourage any initiative aimed at finding a just and lasting solution to the tragedy experienced by these peoples. [passage omitted]

Dear countrymen, today's world cannot be imagined without the big geo-economic groups which constitute an imperative condition for development. The new world order demands a geo-political system of integration in order to meet the various challenges of peace and security. As far as Africa is concerned, there is a much more pressing need for integration because of our weak economies and the great extent to which our continent is lagging behind.

Countrymen, the constraints connected with the financing of the national elections as well as the physical and psychological preparations involved have forced the government to reschedule the original timetable. All the democratic experiments conducted in the recent history of our continent succeeded with substantial financial assistance from some foreign countries. Our government has promptly initiated the appropriate steps in order to benefit from the experience and financial assistance of friendly countries. The present international situation is so difficult that each country gives priority to its own problems. At any rate, the government will do everything possible to ensure that the proposed elections are held in 1993 and under smooth conditions.

Dear countrymen, all that has been achieved is the joint effort of all Guinean patriots, supported by foreign goodwill. As we come to the end of 1992, I would like to encourage and sincerely thank all those, who by their daily acts, enabled our country to meet the numerous challenges it faced in its march toward development. I am talking about especially the youth—the future of the nation—the brave women of Guinea, the hard-working workers, the traditional leaders who constantly calm down excesses, and our brothers in the rural areas. My thoughts also go to the suffering, the sick, and the lonely. I sincerely wish you all happiness, prosperity, and long life for the year 1993. Long live the Republic!

Ivory Coast

Gbagbo Reviews National, International Scene

AB0501152093 Abidjan LA VOIE in French 31 Dec 92
p 2

[Ivorian Popular Front Secretary General Laurent Gbagbo's New Year message, issued in Abidjan on 31 December 1992]

[Excerpts]I—The State of The World

The year 1992 is gradually drifting away, and yielding to 1993. In my mind, a number of ideas and images—some pleasant, others sad—vie with each other in organized disorder.

At the national level, we first had the joy of conceiving ideas and exchanging views, and the will to build tomorrow's Africa with the holding of the edifying symposium on the integration of West African economies, organized jointly by the Jean Jaures Foundation and the Ivorian Popular Front [FPI] on 7, 8, and 9 February 1992.

Immediately afterward, and certainly, as a result of the success of that symposium, the 18 February events unfold in my mind like a slow motion horror film bringing to the fore the atrocities of a regime seeking, at all costs, to cling to power. But the 18 February events show above all—and this is what my mind, which knows neither vengeance nor hatred, will retain most—the strength of FPI activists to resist and rise up to occasions; the coolness of Ivorians and their desire for peace; a magnificent show of national and international solidarity for democracy and democrats with the heart-warming admission of the FPI into the Socialist International; the courage and determination of a judge sure of his mastery of the law and standing up against a whole machinery of repression; and the ecstasy of reunion after six long months of detention. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, the Ivory Coast, our country, is going through a period of transition and the democratic experiment is far from transformed, and the Ivorian economy is getting weaker and weaker.

On the African scene, gloom has set in. Serious threats still hang over the democratization process. The current crisis in the Horn of Africa is unprecedented in the history of the region. In Somalia, the continued conflict has left countless dead, thousands wounded, including civilians, and hundreds displaced. [passage omitted]

In Liberia, Sudan, and Ethiopia, war continues to jeopardize development opportunities. In Zaire, Cameroon, and Togo, the situation is becoming increasingly alarming and the scourge is likely to contaminate the whole of Africa. [passage omitted]

It would be appropriate here to talk about the OAU. Its only merit is that it exists, and that is all. We of the FPI would very much like to see the OAU play a leading role

in Africa. Assuming it cannot restore peace to Somalia, can it not, at least, organize and supervise the supply of food there?

As 1993 begins, it would be proper to review the conception of the OAU in order to improve upon its performance in the area of conflict prevention and resolution and ensure that it has the necessary funds to meet the challenges facing it. [passage omitted]

In the United States, the major event was the election of Bill Clinton—symbol of the up-and-coming generation and the strength and vitality of an entire people and of the hope that this choice will advance the cause of democracy in Africa and in the world. Also of significance was Marvin "Magic" Johnson's staggering and courageous public announcement: "I am HIV-positive," which contributed a lot to AIDS prevention but leaves one regretting that researchers are still searching for a cure for this epidemic. [passage omitted]

II—Wishes for a Prosperous and Happy New Year 1993

On the occasion of the New Year 1993, my wishes are:

At the national level: May the authorities in this country grow in maturity and political culture, and do away with this Manichean vision according to which the opposition symbolizes nothing but Evil and Ill-Will for the Ivory Coast and the ruling party represents Good and Love for the country. May they stop playing "war games" with us and making us feel sick of the Ivory Coast.

May the political class do real politics and learn to play a useful role in crucial issues.

May the FPI and the other democratic forces continue to wage the fight for unity, an historical precondition and necessity. Here I would like to hail the coming into being of the Union of Democratic Forces. [passage omitted]

May FPI activists—men and women—continue through their hard work to make the FPI a credible alternative force, and make 1993 an electoral year.

On the African Continent, it is my wish to see an end to the strife in conflict areas and a firmer consolidation of democracy.

On the international level, instead of the nuclear deterrent, arms race, and over-militarization of our societies, the world should search for peace and security by implementing the idea of common global security in 1993.

I wish you all a prosperous and Happy New Year 1993.

[Issued] Abidjan on 31 December 1992

For the FPI

[Signed] Laurent Gbagbo, secretary general

Liberia

Robertsfield Airport Official on Bombing

AB0501195093 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 5 Jan 93

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Liberia's war rumbles on with the usual claims and counterclaims by the different fighting groups. This week, the anti-NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] group, ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] claimed to have taken Kakata from Charles Taylor's men, but the NPFL denied it. Now, the NPFL rebels are claiming that the West African intervention force, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], yesterday bombed Robertsfield Airport in their territory. On the line, Robin [White] asked the NPFL's Randolph Cooper, who is in charge of the airport, what happened:

[Begin recording] [Cooper] Yesterday afternoon, two planes came—it was around 5:00, 5:30, roughly 5:35, 5:45. Two planes came flying over the runway and bombed the runway. They circled around again and bombed it for the second time and they [word indistinct] left. Prior to that, there was shelling in the general Harbel area. Shells fell on Tulo town in Harbel. I visited the two towns and there was a lady with a baby, [words indistinct] daughter or son, who were killed on the spot. I took pictures of them on the ground and where the bomb... [pauses] the rocket hit. Other civilians were also injured.

[White] What is the situation at Robertsfield Airport? Now, is it in any sense operative? Is it working at all? Can any planes land there? Can you use it?

[Cooper] Right now, no planes can land at Robertsfield at this time because the runway has been severely damaged.

[White] When did you have to stop using it?

[Cooper] Well, we had to stop using it shortly after October 15, within 10 days after October 15, when it was bombed.

[White] So it's in a complete mess now?

[Cooper] Well, the runway is completely destroyed, yeah. You know, the only thing that could land there may be...what...planes that require a thousand-foot runway, a helicopter maybe. That might be the only thing that can land there—a helicopter—right now.

[White] So the NPFL is not able to bring in any kind of supplies to Robertsfield.

[Cooper] The NPFL is not able to bring in any supplies to Robertsfield at this time, no.

[White] Now are you in danger of losing Robertsfield altogether to ECOMOG?

[Cooper] No we are not. There has been no change in the positions that are being held in the general vicinity for the past three, four months since the war started. It has been the same. We have lost and retaken one or two miles either way. Sometimes, the NPFL forces are pushed back a mile or two, sometimes they push the ULIMO-AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia]-ECOMOG group back a mile or two.

[White] Do you think that ECOMOG is making a concerted attempt to take it?

[Cooper] Well, there is no question about it. This is one of the things that precipitated the war. You know, they have been trying to take it now for the past four months and, you know, we know they will continue.

[White] How many men have you put into its defense?

[Cooper] How many men have I? I am not a general. This area is under the First Battalion command of the Third Brigade of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia military and the NPFL has the (?Five) Battalion deployed in this area.

[White] And how many men is that?

[Cooper] A normal battalion. A normal reinforced battalion.

[White] And how important is it for the NPFL to try and keep Robertsfield?

[Cooper] Well, the thing is that, as you know, the NPFL position on the whole issue is that areas which were previously occupied will be retained.

[White] Mr. Cooper, if Robertsfield were to fall, wouldn't that be the end for you because the ECOMOG will be able to fly in everything it wanted for a major offensive against you.

[Cooper] Well, that is one scenario, that is one scenario.

[White] I am just trying to get a picture of what life is like around you, Mr. Cooper. Are you sitting there in Robertsfield and waiting for bombers to come over and hit you? I mean just what is life like around there?

[Cooper] It is a difficult war situation. We expect some two or three planes' flight a day, normally. We go to bed in the night with ECOMOG shelling. They are shelling all night long. We wake up in the morning with the shellings from ECOMOG. Then around midday, early evening, we have the planes' overflight. Sometimes they drop bombs, sometimes they don't.

[White] Are you in a bunker yourself?

[Cooper] No, no, no, no, no! No such thing! No such thing! [end recording]

Niger

Rebel Attack in North Kills 1, Injures 4

AB0501203793 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network in French 1200 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Text] The rebels have launched a new attack in the north of the country. A convoy of travelers was attacked on the Agadez-Arlit road. One person was killed and four wounded. On the line from Agadez, Amadou Seydou has the details:

[Begin Seydou recording] It is, indeed, for the second consecutive time that the Front for the Liberation of Air and Azaouak [FLAA] rebels have attacked a convoy of passengers escorted by soldiers on the Agadez-Arlit road. The first attack took place when the High Council of the Republic delegation was on a visit to Arlit in connection with the launching of the referendum campaign. A customs officer was seriously injured by FLAA bullets. The last attack took place a few days before the arrival in Agadez of the liaison committee in charge of finding a peaceful settlement to this problem.

Yesterday's attack took place 80 km from Agadez. The FLAA rebels opened fire on several vehicles including a Mercedes with a man called Loweli Kakale, born in 1952 in Maradi. He died at about midnight yesterday at the Agadez Central Hospital. Two other seriously injured passengers are currently in hospital.

We know that five days before this attack, the Agadez-Arlit road was forbidden to passengers and the security forces were on full alert. Indeed, over 100 rebels were observed in the I-N-Gal Region. Military missions were sent to the region where a TT [expansion unknown] truck was burnt on 31 December in (?Assaouas), a village between the I-N-Gal administrative post and Agadez town. [end recording]

Nigeria

Babangida, UK's Hurd Meet, Discuss Economics

AB0501161593 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1500 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Text] President Ibrahim Babangida has said that it is not politically expedient at this time to remove subsidy on petroleum products. The president stressed this point today in Abuja during a meeting with the British secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, Sir Douglas Hurd.

General Babangida explained that the Federal Government had to weigh economic considerations, which might seem to justify the removal of the subsidy, against the realities of the adverse sociopolitical consequences which would follow.

He stated that although the subsidy on petroleum products still remained a major issue of contention with the International Monetary Fund, the Federal Government

was very mindful of the destructive and destabilizing impact which the move would have on Nigerians.

President Babangida said that government needed more time to educate Nigerians on the benefits that would accrue to the nation from the removal of oil subsidy.

On the transition program, Gen. Babangida said that the Federal Government expected that the corrective steps and adjustments made, following the extension of the transition program, would reduce malpractices in the election of a civilian president. He expressed confidence that the presidential nomination and election processes would go through without the fraud and manipulation witnessed during the canceled primaries.

Foreign Secretary Expresses Support

AB0501170593 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1500 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Text] The British Government has expressed understanding and support for Nigeria in this trying period of transition. The visiting secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, Sir Douglas Hurd, stated Britain's position today in Abuja during talks with President Ibrahim Babangida. Sir Douglas noted that the next eight months will be most significant for Nigeria's future. While stressing the need for Nigeria to reach a new agreement with the International Monetary Fund, the British secretary of state said that Britain and members of the Paris Club appreciated the domestic pressure on the Federal Government.

President Babangida and Sir Douglas also discussed the problem in Liberia, Somalia, and the Sudan. They reviewed the recent elections in Ghana, Kenya, and Angola as well as the situation in South Africa.

Also today, the British secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, Sir Douglas Hurd, called on the president of the Senate, Dr. Iyorchia Ayu. While exchanging views, Dr. Ayu confirmed that there had been positive signals from the military and expressed the confidence that democracy would be entrenched in the country.

Sir Hurd had earlier presented some books to the Senate president. He also addressed a cross-section of senators who exchanged views with him on the country's present economic and political situation.

UK Suspends Aid To Sierra Leone

AB0601115993 Lagos Voice of Nigeria in English 1030 GMT 6 Jan 93

[Text] Britain says it is suspending all economic aid to Sierra Leone to protest the execution of 26 alleged coup plotters there last week. Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, speaking in Abuja, the Nigerian capital, described the executions as disproportionate use of violence. He said most of those executed had no trial and no right of

appeal. Nine of the condemned were accused of involvement in a coup attempt late last month, and the others were arrested in November on treason charges. The British foreign secretary said his country was withdrawing an offer of \$6 million in aid to protest against the executions and was also considering the suspension of eight projects already under way.

Meanwhile, the British foreign secretary, Mr. Hurd, has left Nigeria for Argentina, where he is expected to effect British claims over the Falkland Islands. During his three-day visit to Nigeria, Mr. Hurd held discussions with some government officials, including the chairman of Nigeria's Transition Council, Chief Ernest Shonekan. Mr. Hurd crowned his visit to Nigeria with a public lecture in Abuja yesterday. After the lecture, he announced the decision of the European Community to carry aid program to the wider world this year following the recent hectic period of activity in the European Continent.

Rights Activist Ransome-Kuti Arrested

AB0301074993 Paris AFP in English 1150 GMT 2 Jan 93

[Excerpt] Lagos, Jan 2 (AFP) - Leading Nigerian human rights activist Beko Ransome-Kuti has been arrested for the second time within a month and taken to an undisclosed destination, prominent opposition lawyer Gani Fawehinmi said here Saturday [2 January].

He said Ransome-Kuti, who heads a human rights defence committee, was taken from his home on Friday by agents of the state security service. Fawehinmi said he expected to be picked up too. [passage omitted]

'Pragmatic' Foreign Policy Efforts Examined

AB0401063693 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 1 Jan 93

[Commentary by Momoh Kubanji]

[Text] The year 1992 has come and gone. It is now part of history as we herald the beginning of another new year, 1993, with great expectations. However, in trying to determine the likely course of events as the days go by, it is only pertinent to look back at events of the past which will serve as the possible guides for any meaningful projections.

Some of the events in 1992 cannot go unnoticed because they affect our lives either as individuals or as a nation. They include developments in the area of the nation's foreign policy.

For quite some time now, Nigeria has been pursuing a pragmatic foreign policy which has Africa as its focal point. What this means is that the country should be more concerned with events within the continent than other parts of the world and play the big brother role in issues affecting Africa and its development.

Nigeria played this role well last year if one is to use some of the foreign policy actions taken during the period as the yard stick. For instance, the country signed a number of bilateral agreements with other countries to explore new areas of cooperation as well as strengthen existing ties.

Nigeria also took a bold step when it restored diplomatic relations with Israeli, broken about 17 years ago. That single action generated a lot of controversy. However, it only stands to reason that the restoration of diplomatic ties was a mere formality since the country already maintained a number of links with the Jewish state.

Nigeria also played host to leaders from other countries of the world. They include President Husni Mubarak of Egypt, Sam Nujoma of Namibia, Nicephore Soglo of Benin Republic, and President Frederick de Klerk of South Africa, who visited the country last April. The South African leader was given a state reception and commended for his efforts to end apartheid in the racist enclave.

Some top Nigerian officials, including President Ibrahim Babangida, visited a number of countries during the past year. President Babangida also addressed the United Nations General Assembly during which he presented a common front in seeking solutions to some of the problems facing Africa.

Nigeria's foreign policy initiative in the year 1992 would not be complete without acknowledging the role the country is playing in resolving the conflicts in the continent. These include the peace talks to reconcile the warring factions in Sudan, which took place in Abuja. In addition, the nation sent relief supplies to the starving people in Somalia and is contributing to the United Nations peacekeeping force in that country.

The country currently maintains peacekeeping forces in Yugoslavia and Liberia where a three-year old war has reduced to ruins the oldest independent country in West Africa. Nigeria's involvement in the Liberian crisis, through the West African peacekeeping force, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West Africa States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], is born out of love for a neighboring country in distress as well as the desire to be our brother's keeper. Moreover, the war in Liberia posed a serious threat to the security of the subregion.

However, some observers have questioned the country's continued involvement in such exercises because of the enormous resources expended in sustaining such a venture. They argue that it is not wise to continue to play the Father Christmas while the country's citizens suffer at home. According to them, Nigeria should begin to think of what she would get back in return for such kind gestures which are not often appreciated.

Nevertheless, efforts should be made to consolidate the gains achieved in the area of foreign policy while the nation should consider reducing its financial obligation to the outside world in view of the present state of the economy. In this regard, it may be necessary to consider

the comparative benefits accruable to the country from a particular foreign policy action.

Finally, such areas of our foreign policy which constitute a drain pipe on the nation's economy should be discontinued. This is because the nation, at this stage, requires all the resources it can muster for its development both now and in the future.

Togo

Koffigoh Explains Communique; Urges Work Resumption

AB0501203593 Lome Radio Lome in French 1900 GMT 4 Jan 93

[Text] This afternoon, the prime minister continued his briefing session on the joint communique issued by the head of state and himself on 29 December. Today's meeting, which was to have been held with all trade unions [words indistinct], took place in the absence of the Federation of Independent Unions. Addressing the meeting, the prime minister explained that he could not remain indifferent to the current situation in the country. This situation not only cripples the functioning of the state but also takes us further and further away from the main objective of leading the country to free, fair, and democratic elections, Joseph Koffigoh asserted.

The prime minister then stated that restrictions are placed on all rights and freedoms because if unrestrained they are liable to be damaging to the nation and no uplifting of the citizens will be possible. He therefore called on the people, especially the unionists, to act with a sense of responsibility to the state in view of the dangers that hang over it.

The head of the transitional government went on to explain the contents of the 29 December joint communique. He disclosed that the following issues—the idea of a special peace force, neutrality of the Army, and formation of a government—were drawing nearer to a solution after discussions with the head of state. However, he continued, the opening of borders and the bringing to book of persons indulging in hostage-taking fell within the government's powers and would be tackled as soon as the government became operational.

Finally, the prime minister called on Togolese to return to work, stressing that Togo had to honor a number of commitments. It may also be recalled that Mr. Koffigoh had earlier conferred with some political party leaders and their deputies. Kokou Koffigoh deplored the fact that the strike was continuing, thereby paralyzing—according to him—the functioning of the state and further holding back the organization of general elections.

COD-II Boycotts Meeting

*AB0401202593 Lome Radio Lome in French 0600
GMT 4 Jan 93*

[Text] As part of his efforts to find a solution to the crisis shaking our country, Prime Minister Joseph Koffigoh met some political party leaders at the Evala Hall of the 2 February Hotel yesterday. The political parties of the Collective of Democratic Forces-II [COD-II] were absent because of, according to them, security reasons. However, the meeting enabled the head of government to explain to those who heeded his appeal the contents of the joint communique that sanctioned his meeting with President Gnassingbe Eyadema on 29 December. After yesterday's discussions, Prime Minister Koffigoh disclosed to the press the purpose of the meeting with party leaders.

[Begin recording] [Koffigoh] Well, the purpose of the meeting is very clear. If each Togolese remains in his corner, thinking and, even, praying to our Lord or God, a solution will never be found. Togolese must meet one another. What we have noted is that Togolese talk a lot—I am also one of those who talk—each party leader talks, but party leaders must get together to discuss and seek solutions. That is one of the purposes of the meeting. The other and main purpose was to explain to political party leaders the highlights of the communique issued after my meeting with the head of state on 29 December. We believe that communique contains answers to a number of questions Togolese are putting to themselves and solutions to the problems currently tearing Togo apart.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, are you satisfied with this consultation session with the political parties despite the striking absence of some of them who did not reply to the invitation?

[Koffigoh] Well, satisfied? Yes and no. On the one side, I am satisfied, because those I met with are also Togolese, and this meeting enabled me to understand and know about their views on what is to be done, that is, how they view the situation. So, anytime I meet with Togolese who play a role in mobilizing national opinion and so on, I am happy to do so whatever kind of Togolese they may be. On the other, I am not satisfied, because I would have liked this meeting to enable us to engage in a more contradictory debate between those who are protesting and the others. But, unfortunately, on this point, the meeting was not completely satisfactory, since some party leaders did not report for the meeting.

I would like to make some clarifications. As I said in the meeting hall, we are running a risk by trying to build the country on lies. There are a lot of lies in the materials with which we are dangerously building our democracy. In this country, for a long time and over the past few days, despite our insecurity or security handling problems, there have been a lot of rallies by various political factions and even by those who were absent today. There have been peaceful marches with precise routes known

in advance. There have been news conferences in our hotels and in public places. So, I think that by retracting behind security issues to be absent from today's meeting, some people are taking on responsibilities in the face of our country's history. A strike is not an end in itself. It was—as I understood from the beginning—the expression of a certain dissatisfaction to draw the authorities's attention to some problems I, the prime minister, consider as real. So, after drawing their attention, one should know that there is the need to stop so that people can work quietly, namely so that the authorities and the various political leaders—those who seek the development of this country—can take the necessary steps for solutions. But, if this strike becomes an end...well, I say that I really deplore the continuation of this form of political struggle in its form and condition. That is my stand, because as I said, Togo is currently in peril. We are threatened by epidemics, everything is suspended, our external commitments are not honored, and so on. Togo is in immediate peril, and as an interlocutor has just said, it is not only the gun that kills, famine also kills—and we can see this everyday on the television, I mean, what is happening in other countries. Disease caused by misunderstanding among men also kills. For me, Togolese should understand this and resume work as quickly as possible so that we carefully take the necessary action. In this regard, the 29 December communique contains all that is necessary to relaunch sociopolitical activities in our country and relaunch the democratic process, because that is also extremely important. [end recording]

Opposition Abandons Negotiations

AB0501182593 Paris AFP in English 1450 GMT 5 Jan 93

[Excerpts] Lome, Jan 5 (AFP)—Eight weeks into a general strike, Togo's opposition decided Tuesday [5 January] to abandon negotiations with interim Prime Minister Joseph Koffigoh, calling him an "obstacle" to democracy. In a statement, the opposition collective COD-2, which groups 25 political parties, trade unions and business associations, said it would hold all further talks directly with Togo's military ruler, General Gnassingbe Eyadema.

The opposition accused Koffigoh of serving as a "buffer between democratic forces and the supporters of the old (Eyadema) regime" and said he was an "obstacle to the just struggle of the Togolese people."

Koffigoh had on December 29 called on the strikers to return to work. [passage omitted]

On Sunday [3 January], the opposition boycotted talks with Koffigoh, which were attended only by the former sole ruling Togolese People's Rally (RPT) and small parties hostile to the strike. Independent trade unions boycotted the premier in their turn on Monday [4 January].

The opposition wants an independent security force, a commitment from the Army to be politically neutral,

and trial for soldiers who took 40 members of the transitional parliament hostage in October in a successful bid to have some RPT funds unfrozen. The opposition also wants an "equitable government" formed.

Sources close to President Eyadema on Tuesday told AFP that he would not meet opposition leaders until they called off the strike.

Premier Delivers New Year's Message

AB0101170893 Lome Radio Lome in French 1900 GMT 31 Dec 92

[New Year address to the nation by Prime Minister Joseph Kokou Koffigoh in Lome on 31 December 1992—live or recorded]

[Text] The year 1992 is ending. Given the special circumstances in which we find ourselves, my thoughts go first to the children, the small children, because they were the first victims of the moroseness that characterized Christmas festivities this year. This is why my sincere wishes go first to them. I therefore wish all the children of Togo a happy New Year. May 1993 be a year of renewed happiness and hope for a happy future. Through our children, I would like to wish the same to every Togolese. May the first days of 1993 be days of reunion, hope, and brotherliness. May they, with God's blessings, bring us out of the impasse and instill within the people renewed trust, which is the key to the success of our common goal, democracy.

I also seize this opportunity to send my most sincere wishes to all officials of the nation, especially the president of the Republic, members of government, the chairman and all the members of the High Council of the Republic, leaders of political parties and associations, senior officers of the Togolese Armed Forces, and all Togolese civilians and soldiers. I wish you all a happy New Year.

French Secretary Yamgnane Ends Visit, Comments

AB0301125393 Lome Radio Lome in French 2200 GMT 2 Jan 93

[Excerpts] Mr. Kofi Yamgnane, French secretary of state for social affairs and integration, left our country this evening at the end of his visit. He was seen off by the territorial administration and security minister, Agbeyome Kodjo, Generals Ameyi and (Bomfo), as well as other important personalities. On the French side was His Excellency Jean-Michel Gausson, ambassador to Togo. Before leaving for France, Mr. Yamgnane gave his impressions to the press. Let us listen to him:

[Begin Yamgnane recording] (?We heard) about the situation in Togo. As you know, I do not wait for newspapers to talk about Togo before getting information because this is a country which I particularly hold at heart, among the preoccupations I have elsewhere. In fact, I saw a country in a difficult situation, but one should not become despaired and we should not exaggerate things. To every problem there is always a solution. It is certainly a matter of understanding, discussions, and dialogue. In fact, I felt that there was the desire for dialogue from the leaders I saw. I want to take this opportunity you have given me to wish the leaders of this country and the Togolese people peace and restoration of all that has brought honor and fame to Togo in the world. [passage omitted] [end recording]

During his stay in Togo, the French secretary of state for integration met with all the leading actors in the national life. He held talks with the president of the Republic, General Gnassingbe Eyadema; the prime minister, Mr. Joseph Kokou Koffigoh; and the chairman of the High Council of the Republic, Monsignor Kpodzro, over the sociopolitical situation of our country.

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